**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO URGE THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO PROMOTE THE CREDIBILITY AND BALANCE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HEALTH PLANNING COMMITTEE BY ENSURING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE REPRESENTS THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF STATE RESIDENTS WHO WOULD BE SERVED BY THE STATE HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE CREATED BY THE COMMITTEE.

Whereas, the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, collectively known as the Affordable Care Act, became federal law in March 2010 to promote the affordability and availability of health insurance; and

**Whereas,** the Affordable Care Act requires the establishment of health insurance exchanges by 2014; and

Whereas, on March 10, 2011, the Governor of the State of South Carolina issued Executive Order 2011‑09 to establish the South Carolina Health Exchange Planning Committee to determine whether it is feasible for South Carolina to establish a health insurance exchange and, if so, propose a plan for the successful implementation and ongoing sustainability of a state‑based health insurance exchange; and

Whereas, in addition to the duties and obligations of the committee, this executive order also specified the composition of the twelve‑person membership of the committee; and

Whereas, in an effort to ensure the South Carolina Health Planning Committee enjoys the highest reputation for credibility and balance, the committee’s membership should represent the broad spectrum of state residents who would be served by the state health insurance exchange created by the committee as well as the interests of the insurance industry; and

Whereas, the General Assembly urges the Governor of the State of South Carolina to appoint a committee member who would serve as a consumer watchdog advocating for those South Carolinians who might be served by the program. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, urge the Governor to promote the credibility and balance of the South Carolina Health Planning Committee by ensuring the membership of the committee represents the broad spectrum of state residents who would be served by the State Health Insurance Exchange created by the committee.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Nikki Haley.

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