**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO PROCLAIM THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014 “NURSE PRACTITIONER AND CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO RECOGNIZE NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIVES FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) provide care to patients in many settings across South Carolina and are Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs); and

Whereas, more than 800,000 new patients will enter the South Carolina health care system under the Affordable Care Act by the end of this year; and

Whereas, the American Association of Medical Colleges Center for Workforce predicts that there will be a 94% increase in nurse practitioners and a shortfall of 63,000 physicians by the end of 2015; and

Whereas, nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives were found to have equal or higher patient satisfaction rates than physicians and also tended to spend more time with patients during clinical visits. Similar reports and statements from the *North Carolina Medical Journal*, the Federal Trade Commission, AARP, the Kellogg Foundation, and *The Atlantic* all echo this finding; and

Whereas, the Federal Trade Commission stated in a recent policy paper that, “When APRNs are free from undue supervision requirements and other undue practice restrictions, they can more efficiently fulfill unmet health care needs”; and

Whereas, the National Governor’s Association stated “Existing research suggests that NPs can perform a subset of primary care services as well as or better than physicians”; and

Whereas, South Carolina ranks thirty-third for the lowest number of primary care physicians and is in the bottom five for unhealthiest states; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Access to Health Care will host its annual Nurse Practitioner and Certified Nurse Midwife Legislative Day at the South Carolina Statehouse on Thursday, April 3rd to educate policymakers that utilizing nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives to the fullest extent of their education and experience will ultimately save the state money and will provide for greater access to health care for all South Carolinians. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate, by this resolution, proclaims Thursday, April 3, 2014 “Nurse Practitioner and Certified Nurse Midwife Day” in South Carolina and recognizes nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives for their dedicated service to the citizens of South Carolina.

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