**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCILS OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THIRTY‑FIVE YEARS OF FOSTERING DIRECT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN PUBLIC EDUCATION.

Whereas, nearly fifteen thousand parents, community members, educators, and students currently serve on School Improvement Councils in our State’s more than one thousand one hundred public schools; and

Whereas, these School Improvement Council members are committed to preparing all of South Carolina’s school children for successful futures in an increasingly complex and demanding world; and

Whereas, School Improvement Councils play a vital role in advocating for effective public education and in upholding public education’s accountability to citizens of all ages; and

Whereas, the South Carolina School Improvement Council at the University of South Carolina’s College of Education is integral and dedicated to promoting and supporting meaningful civic engagement for quality public education in our State through local School Improvement Councils; and

Whereas, School Improvement Councils were mandated by the South Carolina General Assembly through the Education Finance Act of 1977 to provide parents and community members a direct voice in the climate and progress of their local public schools; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly values the inspiration, energy, and vision of the parents, community leaders, educators, and students who every year devote hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours, serving South Carolina’s public education system to work toward these goals through their School Improvement Councils. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and commend South Carolina’s School Improvement Councils for thirty‑five years of fostering direct civic engagement in public education.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina School Improvement Council Board of Trustees.

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