**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014, AS “LINKS DAY AT THE CAPITOL”, TO RECOGNIZE THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE SOUTHERN AREA OF THE LINKS, INC., AND TO COMMEND THEIR EFFORTS AND ADVOCACY IN SEEKING TO ELIMINATE HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, The Links, Inc. is an international, nonprofit corporation, established in 1946 with a current membership of twelve thousand professional women of color in two hundred seventy‑six chapters across forty‑one states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas; and

Whereas, the five facets of the organization’s programming include National Trends and Services, The Arts, Services to Youth, International Trends and Services, and Health and Human Services, all of which are implemented through strategies such as public information and education, economic development, and public policy campaigns; and

Whereas, with chapters in Aiken, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, Orangeburg, and Spartanburg, the South Carolina Chapter of the Southern Area of The Links, Inc. is dedicated to improving the health of African Americans, eliminating health disparities affecting the state’s population, eradicating childhood obesity, and promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education, mentoring, anti‑bullying initiatives, and civic education; and

Whereas, Links Day at the Capitol (LDAC) is an annual one day advocacy project of the Southern Area of The Links, Inc. to bring to the attention of state legislators and other state public officials those legislative and public policy issues of critical importance to the Southern Region and to the national organization; and

Whereas, the legislative policy agenda of the Southern Area of The Links, Inc. aligns with the organization’s national strategic policy goals of working to eliminate the structural and systemic barriers that prevent full access to educational opportunities and health care for local communities through chapters that engage in transformational programming to address a broad range of these strategic priorities; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives welcome such a vital organization to the South Carolina State House and are pleased to have the opportunity to recognize their commitment and dedication to truly critical issues in South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare Wednesday, April 30, 2014, as “Links Day at the Capitol”, recognize the South Carolina Chapter of the Southern Area of The Links, Inc., and commend their efforts and advocacy in seeking to eliminate health disparities in the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the South Carolina Chapter President of the Southern Area of The Links, Inc.

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