**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE DR. PARMANAND J. DAWANI OF MARION COUNTY, FOUNDER OF HELPING HANDS FREE MEDICAL CLINIC, FOR HIS HUMANITARIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS COMMUNITY, AND TO WISH HIM ALL THE BEST IN THE COMING YEARS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting that the South Carolina House of Representatives should pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Parmanand J. Dawani of Mullins for the outstanding service he has provided to the people of South Carolina; and

Whereas, a native of Pakistan, Dr. Dawani prepared for his life’s work as a physician through studies at Fergusson College in Pune and Dow Medical College in Karachi, earning a medical degree from the latter in 1961; and

Whereas, in 1972 Dr. Dawani moved his family to the United States, where he completed a residency in internal medicine in 1975; and

Whereas, after a tenure with the Veterans Administration Hospital in Columbia from 1975 to 1978, Dr. Dawani and his family relocated to Mullins, where he practiced internal medicine with Advanced Medical Associates until his retirement in 2002; and

Whereas, upon retiring, Dr. Dawani founded Helping Hands Free Medical Clinic in Marion County, realizing his dream of providing basic primary medical care to the uninsured and underserved of Marion County and its surrounding communities; and

Whereas, Helping Hands Free Medical Clinic began with an all-volunteer staff consisting of a physician, nurse, and an eligibility coordinator. Today, the clinic has locations in Marion and Mullins, and a staff consisting of a physician assistant, nurse, and receptionist, as well as the continued volunteer services of Dr. Dawani and many others; and

Whereas, although Dr. Dawani is most widely recognized as a compassionate and skilled physician, he also is a devoted husband to Champa Dawani, and together they are the proud parents of two fine sons who followed Dr. Dawani’s footsteps to pursue careers in medicine, Dr. Mahendra Dawani, an anesthesiologist, and Dr. Surendra Dawani, an internist, and two wonderful daughters, Sarla Dawani Morris and Sharmila Dawani Bali. They also are the proud grandparents of three beloved grandchildren; and

Whereas, in his rare moments of leisure time, Dr. Dawani often enjoys relaxing with a few rounds of bowling, preferably rolling strikes, or at least spares; and

Whereas, it is fitting that the South Carolina House of Representatives should pause in its deliberations to recognize and celebrate the humble and generous contributions of Dr. Parmanand J. Dawani to improving the health of the people of Marion County and surrounding areas. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, honor and recognize Dr. Parmanand J. Dawani of Marion County, distinguished physician and founder of Helping Hands Free Medical Clinic, for his humanitarian contributions to his community, and to wish him all the best in the coming years.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dr. Parmanand J. Dawani.

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