**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE UNTIMELY PASSING OF ISABELLA “BELLA” MUNTEAN AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Isabella “Bella” Muntean on April 6, 2018 at the young age of fifteen. Having been diagnosed with an aggressive cancer in the seventh grade, Bella was a true warrior, never giving up on any battle she faced; and

Whereas, a native of Superior Township, Michigan, Bella was the daughter of Dorin and Brenda Denise Mellott Muntean. As a freshman at Riverside High School, she thrived on education. She was a straight-A student and also played the flute in concert band; and

Whereas, an old, wise soul at heart, Bella loved traveling, art, and antiquing and was an avid doll photographer in the American Girl doll community. She had over 23,000 Instagram followers from various cultures all over the world; and

Whereas, Bella began giving back to others at the young age of six, and from that point on, she devoted her life to community service: volunteering at soup kitchens, the Salvation Army, and a local nursing home and with the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In 2017, while in treatment, Bella began her own charity, Angels of Hope, to provide other children being treated for cancer with toys, gift cards, and other items; and

Whereas, an exemplary volunteer and a role model to her peers, Bella received a number of awards for her service, including the Prudential Spirit of Community Service Award, an award for her charity of service by President Donald Trump, and *Upstate Parent* magazine’s “1 to 10 Students Who Make a Difference”; and

Whereas, a member of Covenant United Methodist Church, Bella’s faith in God was unfailing. She loved igniting faith and changing lives, and while in treatment, she even helped minister to other families who were losing their children to cancer; and

Whereas, Bella was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather, Nicolae Muntean; and

Whereas, Bella leaves to cherish her memory her sister, Julia Muntean; paternal grandmother, Ana Muntean; maternal grandparents, Jesse Mellott (Henrietta) and Bonnie Vaughan; and two uncles, Nicolae Muntean and Jesse Mellott II. An inspiration to all, Bella was always smiling, positive, selfless, and dedicated to helping others in need. She will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the untimely passing of Isabella “Bella” Muntean and extend their deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Isabella “Bella” Muntean.

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