**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE MAY 2017 AS “BUILDING SAFETY MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND LOCAL AND STATE CODE OFFICIALS FOR THE SIGNIFICANT SERVICE THEY PROVIDE IN KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE AND OUR ECONOMY GROWING.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly recognizes that the state’s growth and strength depend on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings, and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster; and

Whereas, the confidence that citizens place in the structural integrity of the buildings that make up our communities is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians, such as building‑safety and fire‑prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, and others in the construction industry who work year round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and

Whereas, Building Safety Month is meant to remind the public about the critical role of the largely unknown guardians of public safety, the local code officials who ensure that communities have safe, efficient, and livable buildings which are essential in order to keep America great; and;

Whereas, the theme for Building Safety Month 2017, “Code Officials—Partners in Community Safety and Economic Growth,” encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building‑safe and ‑resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation; and new technologies in the construction industry; and

Whereas, Building Safety Month 2017 encourages awareness that countless lives have been saved due to the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies and recommends appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure that the places where we live, learn, work, worship, and play are safe; and

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus, and federal agencies in protecting lives and property. 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, declare May 2017 as “Building Safety Month” in South Carolina and recognize and commend local and state code officials for the significant service they provide in keeping our communities safe and our economy growing.

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