**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE JUNE 2017 AS “SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH” IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AND INCREASED RESEARCH INTO THE CAUSES OF AND A CURE FOR THIS DISEASE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives find it altogether fitting and proper to declare June 2017 as “Scoliosis Awareness Month” in South Carolina in conjunction with National Scoliosis Awareness Month; and

Whereas, scoliosis, the abnormal curvature of the spine, is a condition which affects an estimated six to nine million people in the United States; and

Whereas, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is ten to fifteen years of age, occurring equally among both genders, but with females it is eight times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment. Most prevalent in otherwise healthy children, scoliosis can cause pain, reduced respiratory function, and limited mobility. Approximately one in six children diagnosed with this disease will eventually require active medical treatment; and

Whereas, while scoliosis has no known cause or cure, screening programs allow for early detection and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition; and

Whereas, taking place annually in June, National Scoliosis Month has the goal of highlighting the growing need for education, early detection, and heightened awareness in the public about scoliosis and its prevalence within the community. The campaign also unites scoliosis patients, families, physicians, clinicians, institutions, and related businesses in collaborative partnerships of local activities, events, and grassroots networking throughout the month of June; and

Whereas, raising public awareness of scoliosis is vital in helping children, parents, and healthcare providers diagnose, understand, and treat this disease and reduce the pain and suffering of those it affects. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, declare June 2017 as “Scoliosis Awareness Month” in the State of South Carolina and encourage all South Carolinians to promote awareness and increased research into the causes of and a cure for this disease.

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