**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO PROMOTE HEART DISEASE AWARENESS TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST HEART DISEASE AND STROKE, AND TO PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2018 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, heart disease is the second leading cause of death in South Carolina, affecting men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States; and

Whereas, hospital admissions from heart disease in South Carolina reached over fifty‑one thousand in 2016; and

Whereas, costs due to these hospitalizations reached over 3.4 billion dollars; and

Whereas, about eighty percent of cardiovascular diseases may be prevented; and

Whereas, nearly two out of every five South Carolinians have high blood pressure which is a major, controllable risk factor for heart disease; and

Whereas, the American Heart Association encourages all citizens to learn their family history and to meet with a healthcare provider to determine their risk for cardiovascular diseases and stroke; and

Whereas, South Carolinians are further encouraged to take control of their heart health by knowing five numbers that can be life changing when they indicate risk factors to heart health: total cholesterol, HDL or good cholesterol, blood pressure, blood sugar, and body mass index (BMI). Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, promote heart disease awareness to the citizens of South Carolina, recognize the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, and proclaim February 2018 as “American Heart Month” in South Carolina.

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