**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION ON ITS MANY YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO QUALITY EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO CONGRATULATE THE ORGANIZATION AT THE CELEBRATION OF ITS FIFTY‑YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF UNIFICATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly is pleased to learn that the South Carolina Education Association (SCEA) is celebrating its fifty‑year anniversary of unification in April 2017; and

Whereas, the SCEA is recognized as one of the strongest advocates for quality public schools, students, teachers, and education support professionals in South Carolina; and

Whereas, on April 1, 1967, the SCEA and Palmetto Education Association merged under the name of the South Carolina Education Association to form the largest such group in the State. With members in every school district, the newly fledged organization held to these two purposes: advancing our state’s education efforts and ensuring that every child receives a quality education, regardless of zip code. The organization continues its efforts to advance education to this day; and

Whereas, on Saturday, April 1, 2017, educators, friends, and supporters will come together to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the merger of the SCEA and Palmetto Education Association. At the celebratory luncheon, attendees will enjoy entertainment, historic displays, guest speakers from the group’s fifty‑year history, and the announcement of winners of a statewide essay contest and art contest; and

Whereas, grateful for the SCEA’s many years of service in the field of education, the General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to a significant merger that resulted in a powerful platform for the voices of educators and public education in South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and commend the South Carolina Education Association on its many years of commitment to quality education in the public schools and congratulate the organization at the celebration of its fifty‑year anniversary of unification.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the South Carolina Education Association.

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