**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® FOR ITS STRONG SUPPORT OF FAIR HOUSING IN THE PALMETTO STATE AND TO DECLARE APRIL 2018 AS “FAIR HOUSING MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, April 11, 2018, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which enunciates a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, religion, sex, familial status, handicap, or national origin and encourages fair housing opportunities for all; and

Whereas, Chapter 21 was added to Title 31 of the South Carolina Code of Laws in 1989 to enact the South Carolina Fair Housing Law, providing enforcement and protection at the state level; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Association of REALTORS® is committed to highlighting the Fair Housing Act by continuing to address discrimination in our community, by supporting programs that will educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and by planning partnership efforts with other organizations to help assure all citizens of their right to fair housing; and

Whereas, the National Association of REALTORS® Code of Ethics commits all REALTOR® members to providing equal professional services without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, handicap, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin; and

Whereas, fairness is the foundation of our way of life and reflects the best of our traditional American values; and

Whereas, invidious discriminatory housing practices undermine the strength and vitality of South Carolina and its citizens; and

Whereas, all South Carolinians must continue working to assure there are no victims of discriminatory housing practices and to make the ideal of fair housing a reality; and

Whereas, the most basic physical needs of all members in any society include the need for shelter. Whether they work within or outside the real estate profession, those citizens who ensure the right of everyone to obtain residential housing, either by renting or by purchasing, facilitate and perpetuate the American dream of family housing. 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, recognize the South Carolina Association of REALTORS® for its strong support of fair housing in the Palmetto State and declare April 2018 as “Fair Housing Month” in South Carolina.

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

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