**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND APPLAUD BRIDGET DALY MUSTEATA FOR EARNING THE DISTINCTION OF BEING NAMED SOUTH CAROLINA VICTIM ASSISTANCE NETWORK’S OUTSTANDING SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AND TO CONGRATULATE AND THANK HER AND THE TOWN OF LYMAN FOR PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO VICTIMS.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina deem it absolutely fitting and proper to pause in their deliberations to honor a woman who has dedicated her time and energy to supporting individuals who have been the victims of crimes, Bridget Daly Musteata; and

Whereas, Bridget Daly Musteata serves as the president of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Victim Advocates Association (SCLEVA). This is a nonprofit organization consisting of trained professionals who support crime victims and proudly serve in our State’s law enforcement agencies in order to uphold the rights of those exposed to unspeakable injustice; and

Whereas, this year, Bridget was named Outstanding Service Provider of the Year by the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network (SCVAN). This award is given to a direct service provider who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to assist crime victims; and

Whereas, having been nominated by several individuals, Bridget was determined to have earned this distinction for her unwavering service and dedication. Those who work closely with Bridget witness her constantly placing the needs of her victims before her own, regularly spending her own money to assist victims where available services or benefits fall short, and even sacrificing time with her family to better support those in need; and

Whereas, she always looks for ways to improve the level of assistance and to better fulfill the needs of victims. She continually promotes training, and her leadership, guidance, and personal example allow her and SCLEVA to offer hundreds of hours of training each year in many law enforcement and victim service disciplines, directly affecting crime victims and the quality of care they receive; and

Whereas, Bridget’s dedication is without question. She started an art therapy program for victims that is open to any victims from Lyman and surrounding areas, offering a program for children and another for adults once a month. This class continues to grow. Bridget personally attends these programs to be with the victims, sacrificing time away from her family to ensure the program is successful. She also has great relationships with local businesses and churches, resulting in the donations of items of which victims are in need; and

Whereas, Bridget’s mentality has helped change the nature of how officers think of crime victims. She has instilled a culture of caring and compassion that leads to policy changes reflecting a more victim‑centered focus. Officers have come to heavily rely on her to obtain help and resources for victims and any individuals that appear to need assistance; and

Whereas, she is willing to do anything in her power to make sure victims are comfortable and safe, making her one of the best victim advocates not only in our State but in the entire country; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are exceedingly grateful for the service and care Bridget has shown and continues to show to those most in need of assistance and wish her much continued success in her noble pursuit. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor and applaud Bridget Daly Musteata for earning the distinction of being named South Carolina Victim Assistance Network’s Outstanding Service Provider of the Year and congratulate and thank her and the town of Lyman for providing exceptional service to victims.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Bridget Daly Musteata.

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