**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE MAY 14 THROUGH MAY 20, 2017, AS “POLICE WEEK” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO HONOR THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES AND SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRACY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate find it appropriate and proper to recognize May 14 through May 20, 2017, as “Police Week” in South Carolina in conjunction with “National Police Week” in order to honor the men and women who risk their lives to serve our communities and keep our citizens safe; and

Whereas, there are approximately nine hundred thousand law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated law enforcement officers within the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, there have been 15,548 assaults against law enforcement officers in 2015, resulting in approximately 14,453 injuries; and

Whereas, since the first recorded death in 1791, more than twenty thousand law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, including four hundred and fourteen law enforcement officers in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. and on the Law Enforcement Memorial monument on the Statehouse grounds in Columbia; and

Whereas, three hundred ninety‑four new names of fallen heroes are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this spring, including one hundred forty‑three officers killed in 2016 and two hundred fifty‑one officers killed in previous years; and

Whereas, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund’s 29th Annual Candlelight Vigil on the evening of May 13, 2017; and

Whereas, May 15 is designated as “Peace Officers Memorial Day” in honor of all fallen officers and their families, and U.S. Flags should be flown at half‑staff; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate formally designate May 14 through May 20, 2017, as “Police Week” in the State of South Carolina, and publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community and communities across the nation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize May 14 through May 20, 2017, as “Police Week” in South Carolina and honor the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding democracy.

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