**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) AND CERVICAL AND OTHER CANCERS, TO SPREAD AWARENESS OF THE PROTECTION OFFERED TO PREVENT IT, AND TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 4, 2020, AS “HPV CANCER PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, each year about fourteen million women and men become infected with HPV; and

Whereas, although most of the time, HPV goes away by itself within two years and does not cause health problems because the immune system fights off HPV naturally, when HPV stays in the body for many years it can cause a variety of cancers; and

Whereas, one vaccine consisting of two doses can be administered to protect against six types of cancers thought to be the result of HPV, including cancers of the cervix, neck, and head. Cases of cancers of the neck and head in men and women currently outnumber incidences of cervical cancer; and

Whereas, although some sixty percent of teens in South Carolina receive the two doses designed to protect children throughout their lives from these cancers, it is estimated that an additional twenty percent need to be vaccinated in order to protect the next generation; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives urges its citizens to be aware of the life‑threatening cancers that HPV can cause and of the means to protect future generations from the effects of this virus. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, call attention to the connection between the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical and other cancers, spread awareness of the protection offered to prevent it, and recognize March 4, 2020, as “HPV Cancer Prevention Awareness Day” in South Carolina.

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