**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARLISA SMALL, OWNER OF MARLISA’S WIG STUDIO & DAY SPA IN LITTLE RIVER, FOR HER SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO HER COMMUNITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF MANY IN THEIR WALK WITH CANCER.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and the members of the South Carolina Senate should pause in their deliberations to commend Marlisa Small for her caring support of patients battling cancer; and

Whereas, diagnosed with cancer herself in 1991, she has been a stage‑4 cancer survivor for twenty‑eight years who believes she is not defined by her own experience but by the strength and courage she sees in other survivors as she meets them and learns about them and their illnesses; and

Whereas, through her business, Marlisa’s Wig Studio & Day Spa located and thriving in the heart of Little River, Ms. Small has many opportunities to meet people experiencing cancer and cancer treatment, who come to Wig Studio to receive a new, custom wig free of charge; and

Whereas, she has helped cancer patients throughout North and South Carolina and has sent wigs across the United States and internationally. She created awareness for her nonprofit organization, Wigs for Cancer, Inc., when she represented the Palmetto State as Ms. Senior South Carolina 2018 in Atlantic City where she competed in the Ms. Senior America pageant; and

Whereas, during the Ms. Senior America pageant, Ms. Small received a standing ovation for her talent‑competition performance of Martina McBride’s “I’m Going to Love You Through It,” and she placed in the pageant’s top‑ten finalists; and

Whereas, she organizes two annual fundraisers through her 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Bold & Beautiful Wigs for Cancer, which provides free custom wigs to those undergoing chemotherapy treatments, and Bold & Beautiful Buddies for Camp Kemo, which helps children with cancer to attend camp for a week; and

Whereas, on average Ms. Small provides cancer patients some ten free, high‑quality wigs every week, that retail for almost two hundred dollars each, and in December 2017, she raised over forty‑two thousand dollars to fund those efforts for 2018. In 2018, she, along with others who work on the Camp Kemo fundraiser, raised over thirty‑two thousand dollars to send children to camp; and

Whereas, for her service to the community, Ms. Small was honored with the Martin Luther King Community Service Award for 2017. She promotes the Look Good, Feel Better program through the American Cancer Society and other cancer awareness programs, such as TR’s Cancer Fighters; and

Whereas, a member of the North Myrtle Beach Ladies Club, she was honored as Rotarian of the Year for 2009‑2010, was recognized for her fundraising successes for the North Strand Homeless Shelter, and has awards of recognition from the Veterans Center. An ardent supporter of our nation’s veterans, she enjoys singing the National Anthem whenever she is asked; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate deeply appreciates the benevolent work of Marlisa Small to care meaningfully for those dealing with the effects of cancer and its treatments. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Marlisa Small, owner of Marlisa’s Wig Studio & Day Spa in Little River, for her significant contributions to her community and to encourage many in their walk with cancer.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Marlisa Small.

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