**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY 18, 2022 AS “NATIONAL CAREGIVERS DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, National Caregivers Day recognizes in‑home caregivers who provide personal care and support to enable millions of Americans who are aging or who have a disability to remain safe and healthy in their own homes; and

Whereas, home care has emerged as a valuable solution to fill gaps created by traditional care models. Professional caregivers work for licensed home care agencies and receive training to enable them to assist with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing, and meal preparation. Most importantly, these caregivers provide vital companionship and mental stimulation by engaging their clients in conversation and other activities; and

Whereas, professional caregivers, who number four and a half million in the United States, and family caregivers, who number an estimated forty-four million, are lifelines to those they care for. Important benefits of home care include helping seniors lead more independent lives, preventing falls and other common injuries, promoting medication adherence, and reducing social isolation; and

Whereas, the home care industry is one of the fastest-growing healthcare industries in the United States. The Home Care Association of America’s South Carolina chapter continuously advocates on behalf of providers and professional caregivers who have been essential in the fight against COVID‑19; and

Whereas, caregivers have stepped up to the challenge of COVID‑19, not only caring for their clients but also risking their own personal health and safety to do so; and

Whereas, home care workers enable families to stay together at home safely and with dignity as they age. As such, it is fitting and proper that the State recognize the dedicated work of home care workers. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize February 18, 2022 as “National Caregivers Day” in South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the organizers of “National Caregivers Day.”

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