**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL 28, 2022 AS “WORKERS’ MEMORIAL DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, Workers’ Memorial Day recognizes those who have died, become disabled, or injured on the job; and

Whereas, Workers’ Memorial Day is observed in nearly one hundred countries; and

Whereas, April 28th was chosen because it commemorates the anniversary of the date on which the Occupational Safety and Health Act went into effect; and

Whereas, occupational injuries and illnesses have broad social and economic impacts on workers and their families, employers, and society as a whole; and

Whereas, over four thousand workers suffered workplace fatalities and over two million workers incurred injuries or illnesses in private industries during the year 2020 in the United States; and

Whereas, over one hundred workers suffered workplace fatalities and over twenty-nine thousand workers incurred injuries or illnesses in private industries during the year 2020 in the state of South Carolina. Over nineteen thousand of those injuries and illnesses were categorized as severe in nature; and

Whereas, many working people in South Carolina, including frontline workers, transit operators, and grocery store workers, were essential in the fight against COVID‑19 and many lost their lives due to the pandemic; and

Whereas, critical safety and health protections are crucial to prevent exposure to toxic chemicals, asbestos, deadly fires, and other catastrophic workplace accidents; and

Whereas, the establishment of Workers’ Memorial Day recognizes workers and loved ones of workers who have died or suffered injuries at the workplace in order to raise awareness about workplace improvements that are needed in order to save lives. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize April 28, 2022 as “Workers’ Memorial Day” in South Carolina.

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