**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE OCTOBER 3, 2022 AS WORLD HABITAT DAY IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO THANK HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SOUTH CAROLINA AND ITS VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS.

Whereas, World Habitat Day was first designated by the United Nations in 1985 to reflect on the state of towns and cities, and on the need of all for adequate shelter; and

Whereas, there are many different causes of the lack of decent affordable housing; and

Whereas, a minimum wage worker in South Carolina must work eighty-six hours a week to afford a one‑bedroom rental home at Fair Market Rent; and

Whereas, the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority estimated that the lack of affordable housing cost the state $9.4 billion in 2019;

Whereas, the existing housing inventory in South Carolina does not meet current demand, particularly for lower‑priced homes; and

Whereas, Habitat for Humanity South Carolina and its twenty-nine affiliates believe that everyone deserves the opportunity for a better future, and that a decent place to live can remove barriers to opportunity, health, and success; and

Whereas, Habitat for Humanity South Carolina has numerous volunteers who freely give of their time to provide better tomorrows for their fellow South Carolina residents; and

Whereas, Habitat for Humanity invests in communities by helping households earning between 30‑80% of the area median income access and sustain responsible, affordable homeownership through home construction, rehabilitation, repairs, housing finance, and support services; and

Whereas, Habitat for Humanity provides an average monthly mortgage of $500 for a three‑bedroom home, compared to the $1,225 fair market rent for a three‑bedroom unit in South Carolina; and

Whereas, over four thousand homes have been built, rehabilitated, and repaired in thirty-seven counties by the Habitat for Humanity network in South Carolina since 1978; and

Whereas, World Habitat Day provides an opportunity to bring awareness to the state of housing in South Carolina while recognizing organizations who contribute to creating more equitable and attainable affordable homeownership opportunities. Now therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize October 3, 2022 as World Habitat Day in South Carolina and thank Habitat for Humanity South Carolina and its volunteers for their efforts on behalf of their fellow citizens.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the organizers of World Habitat Day.

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