**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE NOVEMBER 2021 AS FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, in the month of November, a focus is placed on the critical attention that must be given to the family court system in our society; and

Whereas, the mission of One Mom’s Battle and the Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) is to increase awareness concerning the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the best interest of children; and

Whereas, further, this mission includes increasing awareness of the importance of education and training regarding domestic violence, childhood trauma, and postseparation abuse for all professionals working within the family court system; and

Whereas, the mission also involves educating judges and other family court professionals on the empirical data and research that currently is available. Such research is a critical component of making decisions that are truly in the best interest of children. This research includes The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study (CDC‑Kaiser Permanente), Saunder’s Study (United States Department of Justice), The Meier Study: Child Custody Outcomes in Cases Involving Abuse Allegations, and the Santa Clara Law Study (Confronting the Challenge of High‑Conflict Personality in Family Court); and

Whereas, the FCAMC’s mission is fueled by the desire to increase awareness and change in the family court system while honoring the more than one hundred children in the United States who have been murdered by a parent after a custody court rejected the other parent’s plea for protection (Source: Center for Judicial Excellence). Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare November 2021 as Family Court Awareness Month in the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Family Court Awareness Month Committee.

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