**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO PROCLAIM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022, AS TRIO DAY AND TO COMMEND SC TRIO AND ITS PARTICIPANTS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS IN ASSISTING FIRST‑GENERATION STUDENTS IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA. SC TRIO PERSONNEL SERVES NEARLY FIFTEEN THOUSAND PARTICIPANTS IN FIFTY‑THREE PROGRAMS AND HAS SERVED COMMUNITIES IN THE STATE FOR MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS. SOUTH CAROLINIANS ARE URGED TO OBSERVE THIS DAY WITH CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES THAT CELEBRATE THESE LIFE‑CHANGING PROGRAMS AS SOURCES OF EDUCATIONAL ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR LOW‑INCOME, FIRST‑GENERATION STUDENTS.

Whereas, TRIO is the first set of federal programs to address the serious social, economic, and cultural barriers to higher education in the United States. Nationally, over one million participants in approximately 3,193 programs at host institutions, both urban and rural, make higher education a reality for students who are often the first members of their family to enroll in and graduate from college; and

Whereas, on February 24, 1986, concurrent resolution House Congressional Resolution 278 declared the sense of Congress that February 28, 1986, should be designated “National TRIO Day” and that the achievements of the TRIO programs should be recognized; and

Whereas, TRIO programs, to include the Educational Opportunity Center, Educational Talent Search, Ronald E. McNair Post‑Baccalaureate Achievement Program, Student Support Services, and Upward Bound (Classic, Math and Science, Veterans), emerged from an understanding that low‑income, first‑generation students need more than financial aid to overcome the systematic obstacles in the way of their acquiring a college degree; and

Whereas, National TRIO Day is meant to focus the nation’s “attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives if they are to become contributing citizens of the country, and the talent which will be wasted if that investment is not made”; and

Whereas, by recognizing the untapped talent and potential of low‑income, first‑generation Americans with diverse racial and economic backgrounds, TRIO programs open the doors to educational access and opportunity for all every day. The thirty‑sixth anniversary of National TRIO Day is a day to proclaim commitment to educational equity, access, and opportunity for all, regardless of racial or economic background. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, proclaim Saturday, February 26, 2022, as TRIO Day and commend SC TRIO and its participants for their outstanding achievements and progress in assisting first‑generation students in the State of South Carolina. SC TRIO personnel serve nearly fifteen thousand participants in fifty‑three programs and has served communities in the State for more than fifty years. South Carolinians are urged to observe this day with ceremonies and activities that celebrate these life‑changing programs as sources of educational access and opportunity for low‑income, first‑generation students.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Ashley G. Robinson, President of SC TRIO, Mrs. Paulia D. Williams, Chair of SC TRIO Day Committee, and the SC TRIO Board.

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