**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LAYLA LUNA FOR FOUNDING AND LEADING JUST BEE IN ORDER TO CREATE A WORLD WHERE THOSE WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE TREATED EQUALLY, AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO PROVIDE A SAFER AND FRIENDLIER STATE FOR THOSE WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.

Whereas, the goal of Just Bee is to create a Bee‑friendly world where all are welcome. By promoting awareness, understanding, and respect, Just Bee hopes to create more opportunities for complex‑needs individuals to engage with their community; and

Whereas, Just Bee contends that neurodiversity is a civil right and seeks to promote awareness in order to create meaningful change. Just Bee works to be that change; and

Whereas, believing that accommodating families with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a corporate social responsibility, Just Bee functions to create a world where those with ASD and their families are treated equally; and

Whereas, children with ASD often respond to their environment in ways that are difficult to understand, and their behavior is frequently hard to manage in a public space, often triggered by sensory overload. Many families living with ASD, therefore, are hesitant to spend time in public for fear of how they might be perceived, treated, or shown disrespect; and

Whereas, Just Bee advocates for neurodiverse individuals and ASD‑affected families by developing partnerships in the community, providing business owners with training resources, working to create charitable opportunities, and implementing sensory‑friendly events and business hours to better accommodate families with complex‑needs; and

Whereas, according to a 2018 survey by Autism Society of California, twenty‑six percent of those with ASD cannot communicate their basic needs and wants, forty‑eight percent need constant supervision and support, only twenty‑four percent feel accepted by their community, and fifty‑seven percent cannot find ASD‑friendly social activities; and

Whereas, Just Bee has partnered with medical and behavioral specialists to develop a sensitivity‑training curriculum specific to working with individuals and families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder in a business environment; and

Whereas, participants learn how to create a welcoming and sensory‑friendly atmosphere, strategies for avoiding disruptive behavior, and how to deescalate challenging situations efficiently and effectively; and

Whereas, due to a dramatic increase in the number of children who have autism, which is projected to continue rising, Just Bee encourages business owners to consult with Just Bee to improve their sensory‑friendliness, thus creating a more welcoming and inclusive environment. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Layla Luna for founding and leading Just Bee in order to create a world where those with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families are treated equally, and encourage all South Carolinians to provide a safer and friendlier State for those with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Layla Luna.

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