**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL 15, 2021 AS “OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA IN HONOR OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT DOCTORS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE PLAY IN MEETING THE HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THE MILITARY, AND OUR COUNTRY AS A WHOLE.

Whereas, there are currently over 157,000 osteopathic physicians and osteopathic medical students in the United States; and

Whereas, South Carolina is a growing leader in osteopathic medicine, with more than 1,500 licensed osteopathic physicians in the State; and

Whereas, osteopathic physicians have made tremendous contributions in leadership, research, and patient care in the United States, including treating United States Presidents; serving at the ranks of general and admiral in the United States military, Coast Guard, and public health service; and conducting research at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Institutes of Health; and

Whereas, osteopathic physicians have a strong tradition of caring for patients in rural and underserved communities in all parts of the country, with a strong representation in the primary care specialties; and

Whereas, osteopathic physicians are trained to help patients heal from within in body, mind, and spirit, employing a hands‑on, patient centered approach, which includes the use of osteopathic manipulative medicine, when indicated, to diagnose and treat conditions, preserve good health, and prevent the spread of disease; and

Whereas, South Carolina’s osteopathic physicians are dedicated to improving the health of their community through education and awareness‑based efforts, as well as by delivering quality health-care services; and

Whereas, the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine‑Carolinas Campus in Spartanburg is the State’s first and only permanent four‑year osteopathic medical school, committed to training globally minded, community-focused physicians to practice in the rural and underserved areas of the State and country as a whole; and

Whereas, the AT Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine has a satellite clinical rotation site in Beaufort, which prepares its graduates to practice in the rural and underserved areas of the State and country as a whole; and

Whereas, South Carolinians recognize the need for osteopathic physicians who are committed to improving the health of all Americans through practice in primary care specialties and those additional specialties most needed in rural and underserved areas. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize April 15, 2021 as “Osteopathic Medicine Day” in South Carolina in honor of the important role that Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine play in meeting the healthcare needs of the citizens of South Carolina, the military, and our country as a whole.

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