**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE FEBRUARY 2010 AS “NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH” AND FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010, AS “GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE ORAL HEALTH AND JOIN IN THE EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE NATION TO ADVOCATE FOR ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND OPTIMAL ORAL HEALTH IN CHILDREN.

Whereas, “National Children’s Dental Health Month” and “Give Kids a Smile Day” are set aside to focus attention on the highly preventable epidemic of untreated oral disease among disadvantaged children; and

Whereas, dental decay is a problem that is not widely recognized but is detrimental to the health of all South Carolinians. In children, dental decay is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever; and

Whereas, an estimated twenty‑three million children in America are without dental insurance; and

Whereas, in large part, the future is dependent on the good health of our families; and

Whereas, good overall health and educational success can be achieved in part through good oral health care; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly stands committed to supporting regular and thorough oral health care for the children of our State, so they may smile brightly and proudly in the future. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, declare February 2010 as “National Children’s Dental Health Month” and Friday, February 5, 2010, as “Give Kids a Smile Day” in South Carolina, in order to promote oral health and join in the efforts throughout the nation to advocate for oral health awareness and optimal oral health in children.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the South Carolina Dental Association.

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