**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE FEBRUARY 2009 AS “NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2009, AS “GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY” TO PROMOTE ORAL HEALTH AND TO JOIN IN THE EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE NATION TO ADVOCATE FOR ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND OPTIMAL ORAL HEALTH IN CHILDREN.

Whereas, the State of South Carolina is proud to promote good oral health through “National Children’s Dental Health Month” in February 2009, and “Give Kids a Smile Day” on Friday, February 6, 2009; and

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. Dental decay in children 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;

Whereas, the future, in large part, 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 General Assembly of the State of South Carolina 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 General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, declare February 2009 as “National Children’s Dental Health Month” and Friday, February 6, 2009, “Give Kids a Smile Day” in South Carolina 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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