**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO AFFIRM THE DEDICATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S YOUNG PEOPLE AND TO THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AND TO DECLARE THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS “CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH” IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, every child is entitled to grow up in a safe, loving, and stable family, protected from verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical abuse; exploitation; and neglect; and

Whereas, child abuse continues to be one of our nation’s and state’s most serious public health problems, with the combined direct and indirect costs of child maltreatment in the millions; and

Whereas, all citizens play a vital role in preventing child abuse and neglect by promoting healthy, nurturing relationships between children and adults; and

Whereas, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community issue that depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and

Whereas, programs that are effective and research‑proven in the prevention of child abuse succeed because of partnerships formed between families, social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, child welfare advocacy organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate for the General Assembly to add its collective voice in support of these worthy partnerships and programs. Now, therefore,

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

That the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, affirms its dedication to the future success of South Carolina’s young people and to the prevention of child abuse and neglect and declares the month of April 2016 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in the State of South Carolina.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑