**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO PROMOTE HEART DISEASE AWARENESS TO THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST HEART DISEASE AND STROKE, AND TO PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2022 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, heart disease is the second leading cause of death in South Carolina, affecting men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States; and

Whereas, in 2015, cardiovascular disease accounted for 555 billion dollars in health care expenditures and lost productivity in the United States, and is estimated that by 2035, cardiovascular disease will account for over a trillion dollars in the same annually; and

Whereas, the global COVID‑19 disease pandemic poses significantly high risk to individuals with cardiovascular disease and risk factors; and

Whereas, individuals in the United States have made great progress in reducing the death rate for cardiovascular disease, but this progress has been more modest with respect to the death rate in women and minorities; and

Whereas, cardiovascular diseases are the number one killer of women in the United States, killing more women than all forms of cancer combined and is the leading cause of death for new mothers; and

Whereas, minority women, especially Black and Hispanic women, are disproportionally impacted by heart disease and stroke and research shows heart attacks are on the rise in younger women. Nonetheless, younger generations of women are less likely to be aware of their greatest health threat, including awareness and knowledge of the warning signs of heart attacks and strokes; and

Whereas, South Carolinians are further encouraged to take control of their heart health by knowing five numbers that can be life changing when they indicate risk factors to heart health: total cholesterol, HDL or good cholesterol, blood pressure, blood sugar, and body mass index (BMI). Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, promote heart disease awareness to the citizens of South Carolina, recognize the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, and proclaim February 2022 as “American Heart Month” in South Carolina.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑