**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE HEALTHY YOUNG PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT (HYPE) PROJECT® FOR ITS OUTSTANDING EFFORTS TO CREATE HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES AND ELIMINATE HEALTH DISPARITIES AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES TO THIS FINE ORGANIZATION FOR MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL ITS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, through funds awarded by the CDC in 2012 as part of the National Community Transformation Grant (CTG) Program, the Healthy South Carolina Initiative identified youth empowerment as an innovative strategy to create healthier communities and eliminate health disparities; and

Whereas, a collaboration between Wholespire (formerly Eat Smart Move More South Carolina), the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health, and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control was formed to create the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project®; and

Whereas, the purpose of the HYPE Project® is to motivate and engage youth in policy, systems, and environmental obesity change efforts. HYPE is designed to build the skills of youth so that they can become a greater voice in their communities; and

Whereas, while HYPE activities focus on healthy eating and active living, youth also are encouraged to use the skills they learn to be lifelong champions of positive change; and

Whereas, HYPE teams have worked on over ninety projects to increase access to healthy eating and active living, such as community/church gardens, walking clubs, safety signage, healthy eating and active living policies, healthier concessions, ADA accessibility, and park/playground renovations; and

Whereas, since its start in 2012, the HYPE Project® has reached over one thousand youth from thirty‑two counties across South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project® for its outstanding efforts to create healthier communities and eliminate health disparities and extend best wishes to this fine organization for much success in all its future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project®.

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