**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE THE ANNUAL LUPUS WALK IN AIKEN ON SATURDAY, MAY 5, AS THE 2018 SOUTH CAROLINA LUPUS WALK AND TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND CROWNING LUPUS FOR RAISING AWARENESS OF LUPUS AND GAINING SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS THAT ASSIST THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM THE DISEASE ACROSS THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the 2018 Annual Lupus Walk in Aiken sponsored by Crowning Lupus will take place on Saturday May 5, 2018; and

Whereas, begun in 2014, the walk seeks to raise awareness of lupus and gain support for Crowning Lupus programs which help those living with lupus within the community and across the State; and

Whereas, Crowning Lupus was created early in 2013 by Jade Nealious from Aiken, who suffered from lupus, under a campaign entitled Give Lupus Royal Treatment in order to educate communities across the nation about the effects of lupus. She now serves as the organization’s executive director; and

Whereas, in 2014, Give Lupus Royal Treatment was officially incorporated as Crowning Lupus, and since that time, the organization has been operated solely under the guidance of volunteers who have expanded the efforts of the organization; and

Whereas, the motto of Crowning Lupus, “Run lupus; don’t let lupus run you,” encourages people to thrive in the fight against lupus by managing the effects of the disease through education, support, and proper medical treatment; and

Whereas, the mission of Crowning Lupus is to end the stigmatism attached to this devastating disease by spreading awareness about lupus through fundraising, education, and involvement in communities across Aiken County and surrounding areas; and

Whereas, in order to eliminate gaps between access and availability for medical, educational, and physical resources provided to the community, Crowning Lupus raises funds through events like the Annual Lupus Walk which assist those living with lupus; and

Whereas, Crowning Lupus offers financial assistance through programs designed to assist those affected by lupus to meet medical and living expenses; and

Whereas, over five hundred lupus survivors in communities surrounding Aiken and throughout the State receive critical assistance from Crowning Lupus; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina values the outstanding contributions of Crowning Lupus, and the members wish those who plan and participate in the Lupus Walk in Aiken great success and continued meaningful service to those with lupus. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare the Annual Lupus Walk in Aiken on Saturday, May 5, as the 2018 Lupus Walk in South Carolina and recognize and commend Crowning Lupus for raising awareness of lupus and gaining support for programs that assist those who suffer from the disease across the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Crowning Lupus.

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