**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED NATIONAL CERTIFICATION FROM THE AMERICAN SPEECH‑LANGUAGE‑HEARING ASSOCIATION AND WORK IN SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS SPEECH‑LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS, AND TO COMMEND THEIR SKILL AND CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the citizens of South Carolina place a high value on one of our greatest treasures, the educational development of our children, and celebrate the speech‑language pathologists who help us guard that treasure; and

Whereas, speech‑language pathologists employed in the public schools of this state help children who cannot produce speech sounds or cannot produce them clearly, have problems understanding and producing language, and have cognitive communication impairments, developmental delays or disorders, learning disabilities, mental disabilities, hearing loss, or emotional problems; and

Whereas, speech therapy helps children learn to communicate effectively with others and learn to solve problems and make decisions independently. In elementary school, children develop language and learn to read and write. The ability of a child to learn relies on his ability to communicate and interact with adults and his peers, and a communication disorder also may result in delays in other areas of his development. A child may be very bright, but if he is unable to express himself correctly, his learning process can be affected negatively; and

Whereas, communication with peers and educators is an essential part of a fulfilling educational experience, and children who are able to overcome communication disorders consequently feel a greater sense of pride and confidence; and

Whereas, certified speech‑language pathologists who receive and maintain a Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech‑Language Pathology from the American Speech‑Language‑Hearing Association possess the highest qualifications for a speech provider in our public schools, and the citizens of the Palmetto State are extremely fortunate to have specialists of this impressive caliber helping our children; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives salutes all members of the profession of speech‑language pathology in this state, and expresses its deepest gratitude for their caring and professional service to the citizens of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor those who have received national certification from the American Speech‑Language‑Hearing Association and work in South Carolina public schools as speech‑language pathologists, and commend their skill and contributions toward improving the quality of life for the children of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to State Superintendent of Education Mitchell M. Zais.

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