**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 53‑3‑200 SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS “ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, since our nation’s inception and throughout our history, more than five million brave men, women, and children from Italy made the journey to America looking for freedom and opportunity; and

Whereas, today there are more than twenty‑six million Americans of Italian descent living in the United States, which makes them the fifth largest ethnic group in the country; and

Whereas, as South Carolinians, we find it important to recognize the determinations and achievements of Italians in our State during the month of October; and

Whereas, Italian Americans have helped shape and develop our nation and play a vital role in the political, social, and economic system of our State. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 53 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 53‑3‑200. The month of October of every year is designated “Italian American Heritage Month” in South Carolina in order to recognize Italian Americans for their many contributions to our State and Nation.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑