**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BEGINNINGS SC UPON ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVING YOUTH IN THE PALMETTO STATE BY ENSURING THAT CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING HAVE ACCESS TO NEEDED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS AND BY HELPING EVERY CHILD TO REACH HIS OR HER FULL POTENTIAL.

Whereas, one in every one hundred children in South Carolina is deaf or hard of hearing, but not all are identified; and

Whereas, awareness and education about hearing loss is important because hearing loss is sometimes hard to detect, especially in young children; and

Whereas, families who are isolated with limited support or with language barriers may face even more challenges getting their children’s hearing screened; and

Whereas, Beginnings SC provides services at no cost to families and professionals around the State and shines a light on the impact hearing loss has on children and their families; and

Whereas, in 2021, more than one thousand, three hundred children received hearing screenings in thirty‑one childcare programs across the State and more than six thousand two hundred children have been screened since the program’s inception; and

Whereas, Beginnings SC has become one of the most trusted and valued organizations in South Carolina as a result of its exemplary service to deaf or hard of hearing children and their families, making its tenth anniversary an occasion worthy of recognition and commendation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Beginnings SC upon its tenth anniversary of serving youth in the Palmetto State by ensuring that children who are deaf or hard of hearing have access to needed services and supports and by helping every child to reach his or her full potential.

Be it further resolved that a copy to this resolution be presented to Beginnings SC.

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