**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 5251**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

House Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Anderson, Alexander, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Carter, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Connell, B.J. Cox, B.L. Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Forrest, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Hyde, Jefferson, J.E. Johnson, J.L. Johnson, S. Jones, W. Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lawson, Leber, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Magnuson, May, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, Mitchell, J. Moore, T. Moore, A.M. Morgan, T.A. Morgan, Moss, Murphy, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Nutt, O'Neal, Oremus, Ott, Pace, Pedalino, Pendarvis, Pope, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sandifer, Schuessler, Sessions, G.M. Smith, M.M. Smith, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Trantham, Vaughan, Weeks, West, Wetmore, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow

Document Path: LC-0299HA-RM24.docx

Introduced in the House on March 11, 2024

Adopted by the House on March 11, 2024

Summary: Rev. Dr. Sandy William Drayton, retirement

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/11/2024 House Introduced and adopted ([House Journal‑page 3](h:\hj\20240311.docx))

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=5251&session=125&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[03/11/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/5251_20240311.docx)

A house RESOLUTION

TO HONOR THE REVEREND DR. SANDY WILLIAM DRAYTON, PRESIDING ELDER OF THE GEORGETOWN DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FOR HIS MORE THAN FIFTY-ONE YEARS OF GOSPEL MINISTRY, TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, AND TO WISH HIM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS HE CONTINUES TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to nurture the souls of men. The Reverend Dr. Sandy William Drayton, presiding elder of the Georgetown District of the African American Episcopal (AME) Church, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, a native of Georgetown, Dr. Drayton graduated from Howard High School in 1968. He then joined the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant. Later, he joined the United States Marine Reserve Training and was promoted to staff sergeant; and

Whereas, continuing his education, he graduated from Columbia’s Allen University in 1975 with a bachelor’s degree in sociology. Dr. Drayton furthered his education at Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, Ohio, graduating in 1978 with a master’s degree in divinity. He also received his doctorate in ministry in 2014 from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, Dr. Drayton is a member of the historic Bethel AME Church in Georgetown, where he was licensed to preach in 1973. Over the years, he has served as pastor of Bethel AME Church in Frankfurt, Ohio, as well as Zion AME (Delaware, Ohio), St. Paul AME (Charleston, West Virginia), St. Paul AME (Canton, Ohio), and Moncks Corner AME (Moncks Corner, South Carolina); and

Whereas, Dr. Drayton has served the church as dean of the Board of Examiners, conference treasurer, host to four annual conferences, and chair of two Episcopal District Conventions. In addition, he was twice elected as co-leader and once as leader of the General Conference Delegation and has been elected ten times as a delegate and twice as an alternate to the General Conference of the AME Church. In 2001, Dr. Drayton was appointed presiding elder to the Georgetown District of the Palmetto South Carolina Annual Conference. In 2006, Dr. Drayton was appointed to the Columbia District of the Columbia Annual Conference. In November 2014, he was reappointed to the Grand and Gracious Georgetown District of the Palmetto South Carolina Annual Conference; and

Whereas, because he strongly believes in active community involvement, Dr. Drayton has served his community in a number of different capacities, including as vice president of Habitat for Humanity, a member of the local YMCA Board of Directors, a board member for the Roper Berkeley Medical Center, Charleston Community Development Fund, and South Carolina Landowners Association; and

Whereas, Dr. Drayton finds strength for his labors in the strong support of his beloved wife, Pradensia; their three children; four charming grandchildren; and two additional bonus grandchildren. Mrs. Drayton, a native of Chester, is a retired special education teacher and presently serves the Georgetown District Church as the area consultant of the Women’s Missionary Society; and

Whereas, to recognize Dr. Drayton for his many years of service to the AME Church, the AME Georgetown District will host a “Celebration of Excellence” retirement celebration in his honor on March 16, 2024. The House, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in expressing grateful thanks to Dr. Drayton and in wishing him God’s best as he continues to run the race the Lord has set before him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the Reverend Dr. Sandy William Drayton, presiding elder of the Georgetown District of the African American Episcopal Church, for his more than fifty-one years of gospel ministry, congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement, and wish him God’s richest blessings as he continues to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Reverend Dr. Sandy William Drayton.

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