**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE REVEREND LARRY HAYS OF LEXINGTON COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY‑SEVEN YEARS OF DEVOTED PASTORAL MINISTRY, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND BLESSINGS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is all together fitting and proper that the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina should pause in their deliberations to express their gratitude to the Reverend Larry Hays of Lexington County for his significant contributions to the Church and people of God; and

Whereas, a native of Ozark, Alabama, Lawrence Foy Hays, Jr., earned a bachelor of arts degree from Huntingdon University in Montgomery, Alabama, where he served as captain of the golf team, and completed a master of divinity degree at Duke Divinity School; and

Whereas, for thirty‑seven years Larry has pastured churches in the South Carolina Methodist Conference, including service at St. Andrew’s UMC in Orangeburg, Boone Hill UMC in Summerville, Antioch UMC in Rock Hill, Lake City UMC in Lake City, St. Luke UMC in Hartsville, Bethel UMC in Spartanburg, and St. John’s UMC in Rock Hill, before coming to Mt. Hebron UMC in West Columbia, where he has served since 2008. On June 24, 2012, Larry will conduct his last service as pastor of Mt. Hebron, after which he will officially begin a well‑deserved retirement; and

Whereas, in addition to his extensive service in churches throughout South Carolina, Larry has also served the South Carolina Methodist Conference in various capacities, including being the representative of the conference at the 2005 Spiritual Leaders’ Conference in Nashville, a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, a trustee of Spartanburg Methodist College, and the chair of the Order of Elders; and

Whereas, a sports enthusiast, Larry enjoys golfing and following his beloved Duke Blue Devils. He also enjoys singing and playing guitar, especially gospel and bluegrass music, and he once combined his love of bluegrass music and the gospel as a member of The Saggy Bottom Boys of Spartanburg, a gospel, bluegrass‑gospel, and pure bluegrass musical group dedicated to performing to the glory of God; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, the former Sally Currence of York, they reared two fine daughters, Sarah Plunkett, a speech pathologist who lives in Abilene, Texas, and Lauren Haigler, a special education teacher who lives in Irmo. Larry and Sally plan to spend many happy hours in retirement with their daughters, sons‑in‑law, and grandchildren; and

Whereas, although retiring from full‑time ministry, Larry will continue to serve as a valued mentor to young Methodist pastors in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the years of outstanding ministry that the Reverend Larry Hays has dedicated to many Methodist churches throughout the State, and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. 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 the Reverend Larry Hays of Lexington County upon the occasion of his retirement, after thirty‑seven years of devoted pastoral ministry, and wish him continued success and blessings in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reverend Larry Hays.

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