**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE REVEREND FRED W. COIT OF RIDGEWOOD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN COLUMBIA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF GOSPEL MINISTRY AT RIDGEWOOD AS ITS SENIOR PASTOR 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 of Representatives honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to succor the souls of men; and

Whereas, the Reverend Fred W. Coit of Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church in Columbia stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, a man of God committed to winning souls for Christ, Fred. W. Coit was born in Latta to Robert W. Coit, Sr., and Mary O. Coit. He moved to Columbia with his family at an early age, accepting God’s call into the ministry in 1982, and he has been licensed to preach since 1986; and

Whereas, after the young Fred had yielded to God’s call into the ministry, the Lord impressed upon his heart the need for biblical training. He responded by attending Carver Bible College in Atlanta, Georgia, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in biblical education, followed by a master’s degree in Christian counseling from the Newburgh Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Indiana; and

Whereas, prior to being called as its senior pastor, Reverend Coit served Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church for more than twenty years in several leadership capacities, including associate minister, youth minister, and assistant pastor under the direction of the late Reverend Dr. Levi C. Chavous. In addition, Reverend Coit served as Ridgewood’s interim pastor after Pastor Chavous’s retirement; and

Whereas, Pastor Coit was married to the late Cynthia J. Coit, and the Lord blessed them with two children, Shamael and Korey, who have given their parents the joy of two grandchildren, Amiya and Makaila; and

Whereas, noted as a humble, courageous man of Christian character, one of whom it truly may be said, “Well done, good and faithful servant,” Pastor Coit has demonstrated to others how to be “steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, wishes to express its grateful thanks to Pastor Coit and wish 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, congratulate the Reverend Fred W. Coit of Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church in Columbia on the occasion of his fifth anniversary of Gospel ministry at Ridgewood as its senior pastor 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 provided to the Reverend Fred W. Coit.

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