**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR QUINN CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, UPON THE CELEBRATION OF ITS ONE HUNDREDTH SIXTY‑SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO CHRIST AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Sumter will celebrate one hundred sixty‑six years of ministry in the community on June 8, 2014, with Reverend Dr. Robert L. McCants, presiding elder of the Sumter District, as the speaker; and

Whereas, although Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in the early to mid 1800s, the earliest recollection of the church is recorded as 1848; and

Whereas, the church’s first wooden structure was built on land graciously donated by Mrs. Mary Booth next to the original school which was named after the church; and

Whereas, when the school building caught fire, the church was also destroyed in the blaze due to its proximity to the school, so the congregation worshipped under a bush shed until 1864 when a new sanctuary was erected; and

Whereas, the new building held worshippers until 1962, ninety‑eight years later, and two years after that a new sanctuary was erected under the leadership of the church’s pastor, Reverend B. J. Johnson; and

Whereas, the church’s Memorial Hall was built in 1993 under the direction of Reverend H. H. Felix while Brother Joseph W Muldrow, Sr., oversaw the construction, assisted by Brother Victor C. Baker, Sr., and other members of the church; and

Whereas, through the guidance of Reverend F. J. Gadson, renovations to the sanctuary and bathroom facilities were completed in January of 1996, and the enlargement and extension of the sanctuary and the educational building were completed in October of that year; and

Whereas, under the leadership of the current pastor, Reverend Earther M. McCloud‑Joe, a new public‑address system has been added; the pews and pulpit furniture have been refurbished; new carpeting has been installed; and new parking markers have replaced regular windows; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to celebrate with Quinn Chapel its one hundred sixty‑sixth anniversary of ministering to the spiritual needs of citizens in the Sumter community. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, upon the celebration of its one hundredth sixty‑sixth anniversary of service to Christ and the community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reverend Earther M. McCloud‑Joe.

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