**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE REVEREND DR. JAMES B. BLASSINGAME, PASTOR OF MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, ON BEING ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL & MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is pleased to learn that the Reverend Dr. James B. Blassingame, pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, is the newly elected president of the Baptist Educational & Missionary (E&M) Convention of South Carolina; and

Whereas, elected during the convention’s one hundred thirty‑sixth annual session, held May 9, 2013, in Spartanburg, Dr. Blassingame is a Seneca native and Morris College graduate and serves as secretary of the Morris College Board of Trustees, as well as first assistant secretary of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and

Whereas, Dr. Blassingame believes in active participation in his community, and he demonstrates that commitment in various ways. A substitute elementary teacher for Sumter School District, he is also a member of the district’s Community Advisory Council and Lemira Elementary’s School Improvement Council. In addition, he serves as vice chairman of the Sumter Senior Services Board of Directors and is a member of the Bank of Clarendon Sumter Advisory Board; and

Whereas, further, Dr. Blassingame, a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, recently was named assistant convention chaplain for the organization; and

Whereas, married to the former Shirley McFadden, James Blassingame is the father of three children, who have given their parents the joy of several grandchildren; and

Whereas, to honor Dr. Blassingame on the occasion of his accession to the office of South Carolina’s Baptist E&M Convention president, his colleagues will host a congratulatory celebration in his honor on May 18, 2013, at the Mt. Zion Enrichment Center in Sumter; and

Whereas, the Senate takes great pleasure in honoring the Reverend Dr. James B. Blassingame on his recent election as President of the Baptist Educational & Missionary Convention of South Carolina, and the members wish him God’s blessing as he takes up his new duties. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the Reverend Dr. James B. Blassingame, pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, on being elected president of the Baptist Educational & Missionary Convention of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Reverend Dr. James B. Blassingame.

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