**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF DEACON REGINALD D. ENGLISH OF SUMTER AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Deacon Reginald D. English of Sumter on June 11, 2015, at the venerable age of eighty‑seven; and

Whereas, born in Darlington on January 29, 1928, Reginald English was a son of the late Frederick and Ernestine Bacote English. During his teen years, he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior and united with Zion AME Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he worshipped with his family. Young Reginald was very engaged in the church and active with the youth and young‑adult ministry, and he sang with the Gospel choir. Later, Reginald joined Abyssinian Baptist Church, where he was fully engaged in ministry (evangelism, new member, and church school). He was ordained a deacon and served as chairman of the deacons’ ministry for thirty‑three years; and

Whereas, a 1949 graduate of Standard Evening High School, Reginald pursued formal studies of Christianity by attending Jamison Bible Institute and Manna Bible Institute. He was a former president of the Layman League, Pennsylvania Eastern Region, a licensed realtor, a Prince Hall Mason, and member of the NAACP; and

Whereas, after his retirement as a postal clerk, he and his wife relocated to Sumter in 1994. The following year, they became members of Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, where he was faithful in the church school, Bible study, prayer meetings, and a battery of outreach ministries, including Harmony Court, Samaritan House, area nursing facilities, the deacons’ ministry, the budget ministry, and the brotherhood ministry. He was a former chairman of the JMBC Day Care Center Board and co‑chair of the evangelism ministry. In addition, he served as secretary and chaplain of the Sumter Baptist Association Brotherhood; and

Whereas, Deacon Reginald D. English leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife of more than forty‑two years, Eartha English; a daughter, Ernestine Johnson and her husband, J.J.; a son, Glen Allen Clark, Jr. and his wife, Brenda; a grandson, Brandon Reginald Clark; and a host of other relatives and friends. He will be sorely missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Deacon Reginald D. English of Sumter and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mrs. Eartha English for the family.

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