**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND PINE GROVE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF IRMO UPON THE OCCASION OF IRMO’S MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., CELEBRATION.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Pine Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church and the congregation’s pastor, Reverend Dr. Charles Young, will host Irmo’s third Martin Luther King, Jr., (MLK) Celebration on Monday, January 18, 2016; and

Whereas, Irmo’s first MLK Celebration was held in 2014 at historic Macedonia Baptist Church in the heart of the Irmo community to celebrate and commemorate the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his influence and impact in shaping the communities in which we live; and

Whereas, Reverend C. J. Butler, Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, spoke at that first celebration, and Larry Haltiwanger served as the master of ceremonies. Mayor Hardy King gave greetings from the City of Irmo, and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Mass Choir entertained the audience with uplifting music; and

Whereas, while honoring many local citizens for their significant community service, the event also sponsored a service project to provide food for families in need, which provided food to some twenty families; and

Whereas, in 2015, the program’s presiding officer was Miranda Blocker. The Irmo High School Gospel Choir and the Irmo High School Percussion Ensemble provided musical entertainment, along with a repeat performance of the Community Mass Choir; and

Whereas, the organizers of the event have continued to sponsor a community project to bring together many segments of the community for a common cause: feeding the hungry, made possible by generous contributions of those in attendance; and

Whereas, this year’s theme is “Living the Dream,” and the celebration speaker will be Dr. Stephen Hefner, the Superintendent of Lexington/Richland School District Five; and

Whereas, speeches will be delivered by talented students in the community, and numerous elected officials will be on hand to offer their appreciation for the event; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the dedication of those who have labored in Irmo to preserve the legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., through its MLK Celebration, and the members celebrate with them upon the occasion of this meaningful event. 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 commend Pine Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church of Irmo upon the occasion of Irmo’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Larry Haltiwanger.

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