**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MT. TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, INC., (HEADQUARTERS) AND ST. LUKE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH AND TO CONGRATULATE PRESIDING BISHOP ROOSEVELT WILLIAMS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION AS THEY DEDICATE THEIR NEW WORSHIP FACILITY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Mt. Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, Inc., (Headquarters) and St. Luke Pentecostal Church of Greenwood will dedicate a new worship facility on April 30, 2017; and

Whereas, Mount Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, Inc., was founded in April 1920 by the late Bishop David Samuel Strong and his wife, the late National Mother Lois Boston Strong, after they had organized a prayer band going from house to house and had gathered fifteen followers who met for several months in their home; and

Whereas, the church, which incorporated with the State of South Carolina in July 1938, became known as the Mount Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, Inc.; and

Whereas, Bishop Strong ministered in his community day and night to call people into this harvest field; and

Whereas, the church’s mission is to deepen the spiritual lives of the members; to ordain overseers, elders, pastors, evangelists, missionaries, teachers, and deacons who can use their gifts according to God’s calling; and to observe the ordinances enacted by Christ and practiced in the early church; and

Whereas, the church follows the episcopal form of church policy. The leading official is called a bishop, currently held by Bishop Roosevelt Williams. Other leaders include an overseer, currently Overseer Henry L. Burton; a ruling elder, currently Ruling Elder Sam Stevens; and a business overseer, currently Business Overseer Charles Vaughn; and

Whereas, the church was once comprised of three dioceses: two dioceses in the State of South Carolina and one New York State, but presently operates only one diocese in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the church’s headquarters was previously located on Butler Street in Greenwood but is now located on Alexander Avenue East in Greenwood, where all training takes place, as well as general board meetings and other conventions; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives appreciates the years of significant ministry that this congregation has had in the Greenwood community, and the members extend our wishes for a meaningful celebration at the dedication of the church’s new worship facility. 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 Mt. Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, Incorporated, (Headquarters) and St. Luke Pentecostal Church and congratulate Presiding Bishop Roosevelt Williams and the members of the congregation as they dedicate their new worship facility.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Presiding Bishop Roosevelt Williams.

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