**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE JOYOUS OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY‑SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Pleasant Hill Baptist Church of Marlboro County will celebrate its one hundred forty‑seventh anniversary this year; and

Whereas, the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, located near Blenheim, was built and organized in 1870. The land that the church is situated on was previously owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Bruce and was deeded to the church on August 21, 1880; and

Whereas, prior to the establishment of the church, the forefathers and Black Baptist slaves were members of and worshipped in Brownsville Baptist Church with their masters. Black Baptist members were first received in the church in 1840. Records from 1840‑1870 reveal that a total of eighty‑five members were received in good standing based on profession of faith, baptism, and the acceptance of names given to them by their masters; and

Whereas, on November 24, 1860, the Brownsville Baptist Church held a conference and granted the black members permission to use a vacant building at Cleveland Hill to worship separately, at their pleasure, with the understanding that their membership would remain with Brownsville Baptist and be subject to the discipline of the church; and

Whereas, after several years, on November 21, 1868, several black members requested letters of dismissal from Brownsville Baptist in order to become members of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. Eventually, letters were granted and all were dismissed during the year 1879; and

Whereas, Cyrus Dupree was the first ordained minister to pastor at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, and the first deacons are listed as Moses Dupree and York Rogers. The first known trustees were Julius Dupree, Esau Ward, and Abb Emanuel. Unfortunately, some records have been lost to time and the names of all the founders and any additional deacons are unknown; and

Whereas, Reverend Dupree served for one year and was dismissed on July 24, 1871. After an unexplained three‑year period, Siah Henegan succeeded Dupree as pastor; and

Whereas, over the years, various improvements have been made to preserve, maintain, and enlarge the church, resulting in the structure standing today. After several land donations and additions, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church purchased Redeemed Pentecostal Holiness Church in Blenheim as the future site of the new church on September 8, 2008; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives recognize and honor the legacy of commitment to the Lord and spiritual growth of the congregation that Pleasant Hill Baptist Church has created and look forward to many future milestone anniversaries. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, celebrate the joyous occasion of the one hundred forty‑seventh anniversary of the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

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