**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR DR. ROBERT M. SCOTLAND OF SHILOH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WINNSBORO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF GOSPEL MINISTRY AND TO EXTEND HIM BEST WISHES FOR GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS HE CONTINUES TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate to honor those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to nourish the souls of men, and Dr. Robert M. Scotland of Shiloh First Presbyterian Church in Winnsboro stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregations, and area residents at large throughout his fifty years of ministry; and

Whereas, born and reared in Iva, Dr. Scotland is the son of Robert C. and Readie M. Scotland. He began preaching at the age of twelve at Iva’s Wilson Creek Second Baptist Church and was formally licensed to preach on March 5, 1967; and

Whereas, following graduation from McDuffie High School in Anderson, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving as a chaplain’s assistant. After completion of his military duties, he attended South Carolina State University, where he received his bachelor’s degree, as well as a master’s degree in education. He later received his master of divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and his doctor of ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. He completed his postgraduate studies at the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, over the years, Robert Scotland has served as a teacher at Felton Laboratory School at South Carolina State University, chaplain and chief of chaplains for the South Carolina Department of Corrections, assistant principal at Denmark‑Olar Middle School, and director of programs for exceptional children at Bamberg School District Two. He retired as principal of Columbia’s Killian Elementary School in 2016 and currently is pastor of Shiloh First Presbyterian Church in Winnsboro, where he has served for a total of thirteen years (1992‑1994, 2007‑2017). Dr. Scotland also has pastored several other churches, including New Galilee Baptist in Walhalla; Old Mount Zion Baptist in Greenwood; and Ladson Presbyterian and Ridge View Presbyterian, both in Columbia; and

Whereas, this revered community leader served in Greenwood with the Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors, Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (president), and Department of Mental Health Advisory Board and was volunteer chaplain at Denmark Technical College. The recipient of numerous recognitions, Dr. Scotland was selected to receive the Outstanding Young Man of America Award and was named Felton Laboratory School Teacher of the Year and South Carolina Department of Corrections Human Services Department Employee of the Year; and

Whereas, together, Dr. Scotland and his late wife, Dr. Joann Boyd‑Scotland, parented five children, Gerald, Franette, Robert, Jr., Shijana, and Michele. To honor Dr. Boyd‑Scotland, who was president of Denmark Technical College and his ministry partner for many years, Dr. Scotland has established a foundation that will offer scholarships to young girls planning to be education majors; and

Whereas, to honor him at this very special time in his life, Dr. Scotland’s congregation will celebrate his half century of Gospel ministry on Sunday, March 5, 2017; and

Whereas, grateful for Dr. Scotland’s fifty years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, the Senate takes great pleasure in extending best wishes as he continues to run the race the Lord has set before him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Dr. Robert M. Scotland of Shiloh First Presbyterian Church in Winnsboro on the occasion of his fiftieth anniversary of Gospel ministry and extend him best wishes for God’s richest blessings as he continues to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Robert M. Scotland.

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