**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR DR. TONEY C. PARKS, PASTOR OF MT. SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN GREENVILLE, FOR HIS EIGHTEEN YEARS OF MINISTRY AT MT. SINAI, TO CONGRATULATE HIM AND THE MEMBERS OF MT. SINAI UPON THE DEDICATION OF THEIR NEW MULTI-PURPOSE SANCTUARY AND EDUCATION FACILITY, AND TO WISH HE AND HIS CHURCH GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS THEY CONTINUE TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to succor the souls of men; and

Whereas, Dr. Toney C. Parks, pastor of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel and servant to his community, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, Dr. Parks is a Criminal Justice graduate of the University of South Carolina. He earned his master of divinity degree at Erskine College and Theological Seminary and completed his doctorate in counseling at Westminster Theological Seminary. In addition to his pastoral duties at Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Parks serves as an assistant professor of biblical counseling at Erskine Theological Seminary; and

Whereas, believing a man should serve God beyond the walls of the church, Dr. Parks gives of his time and expertise to various community endeavors. Among these organizations, he serves as chaplain of the Greenville City Police Department and is president and co‑founder of Family Outreach Community Services in Greenville. A respected co‑host of the 107.3 *Vital Link* morning radio show dealing with family‑centered community issues, Dr. Parks most recently served as consultant to Senator Ralph Anderson regarding the Organized Gang Task Force. This initiative was responsible for coordinating law enforcement personnel, community leaders, and parents to help prevent crime among youth in Greenville County; and

Whereas, as a training facilitator, this multifaceted pastor speaks throughout South Carolina and across the United States on the subject of marriage from a Christian perspective. He is a facilitator for the South Carolina Fatherhood Coalition and recently spoke before the South Carolina Senate in support of the Marriage Protection Amendment. Dr. Parks is also a sought‑after instructor on church leadership, administration, and polity for the South Carolina Education and Missionary Convention and the National Baptist Convention of America, USA; and

Whereas, recently, he has had the pleasure of leading Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church through construction of its new sanctuary and education facility. In celebration of the completion of this historic project and in joyful thanks to the God who blessed it, the church, now one hundred thirty‑three years old, conducted dedication ceremonies from April 5 through May 2, 2009. With the aid of these expanded facilities, Dr. Parks and the congregation of Mt. Sinai look forward with anticipation to enlarging their work for the Kingdom of God; and

Whereas, noted as a humble, courageous man of Christian character, one of whom it truly may be said, “Well done, good and faithful servant,” Dr. Parks and Mt. Sinai have demonstrated to others how to be “steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.” The House of Representatives is pleased to honor them and pray he and the congregation of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church will continue to bear fruit in the service of Almighty God, to the blessing of this great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor Dr. Toney C. Parks, pastor of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, for his eighteen years of ministry at Mt. Sinai, congratulate him and the members of Mt. Sinai upon the dedication of their new multi-purpose sanctuary and education facility, and wish he and his church God’s richest blessings as they continue to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Toney C. Parks.

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