**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE REVEREND OSCAR AIKEN KLUGH OF ABBEVILLE, PRESIDING ELDER OF THE ABBEVILLE‑GREENWOOD DISTRICT, PIEDMONT CONFERENCE, AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND TO HONOR REVEREND KLUGH FOR HIS NEARLY FIFTY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS PASTOR AND PRESIDING ELDER.

Whereas, on Saturday, August 15, 2009, the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the Piedmont Conference will host a special retirement celebration to honor the Reverend Oscar Aiken Klugh, Presiding Elder of the Abbeville‑Greenwood District. Reverend Klugh has served the church with dedication and distinction as a Pastor and Presiding Elder for nearly fifty years; and

Whereas, Reverend Klugh is not only exemplary in his service and dedication to his church, but also is an outstanding community advocate and leader through his participation in myriad civic organizations and activities; and

Whereas, through his ministry, Reverend Klugh has come to the aid of victims of natural disasters by helping to spearhead a Tornado Relief Fund to assist devastated families in Abbeville and surrounding counties and by raising thousands of dollars for Hurricane Katrina relief; and

Whereas, Reverend Klugh is passionate about education and has used his many talents and expertise and powers of persuasion to establish a Head Start Program at Pine Grove AME Church in Plum Branch, to facilitate workshops and presentations helping to prepare students for college, and to raise over three hundred thousand dollars in scholarship funds for students; and

Whereas, Reverend Klugh feeds the souls of his congregation through his powerful preaching of the Gospel, and has also fed the poor and hungry families of his greater community by organizing “Matthew 2:35”, a program that helps subsidize over five hundred needy families in Abbeville, Greenwood, and McCormick Counties; and

Whereas, he has selflessly shared his time and talents in many civic arenas, including serving on the Abbeville County Council, the Abbeville Development Board, the Piedmont Technical College Visitors Board, and the GLEAMS Human Resource Commission Board; and

Whereas, Reverend Klugh’s leadership in the AME Church has set a standard of excellence, action, and dedication that many aspire to but few have achieved; and

Whereas, Reverend Klugh’s dedicated service and contributions to his church and his community are only surpassed by his devotion to his beloved wife, Mary Lagroone Klugh, and their six beautiful children; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper for the members of the House of Representatives to pause in their deliberations to recognize a man such as the Reverend Oscar Aiken Klugh who exemplifies outstanding leadership and integrity and who, through his love and devotion to God, displays the highest of Christian values. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize the Reverend Oscar Aiken Klugh of Abbeville, Presiding Elder of the Abbeville‑Greenwood District, Piedmont Conference, African Methodist Episcopal Church and honor Reverend Klugh for his nearly fifty years of dedicated service as pastor and presiding elder.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reverend Oscar Aiken Klugh.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑