**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND TERRY C. WILDER, PASTOR OF SWANSEA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, FOR HIS TWENTY YEARS OF MINISTRY TO HIS CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY AND TO WISH HIM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS HE CONTINUES 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, the Reverend Terry C. Wilder, pastor of Swansea First Baptist Church, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, Terry Wilder earned a master’s degree in divinity and religious education at Wake Forest University in North Carolina; and

Whereas, for eight years a youth minister, first in Greenville, then in Raleigh, North Carolina, Pastor Wilder next took up his duties as minister of education at Varnville First Baptist Church; and

Whereas, in 1990, he became senior pastor of Swansea First Baptist Church and has now served his Swansea flock with grace and wisdom for twenty years; and

Whereas, Pastor Wilder’s accomplishments during this time have been impressive. In addition to leading the church through significant improvements to its physical plant, he has completed eleven mission trips to Kenya, as well as several other mission and disaster‑relief trips within the United States. He is founder of the church’s disaster‑relief program, preschool, and basketball ministry; and

Whereas, believing a pastor should be actively involved in his community, Terry Wilder has sought to serve his God beyond the walls of the church. A member of the Swansea Ministerial Association, he volunteered as a chaplain at Lexington Medical Center for fourteen years, one of those years as president of the Lexington Medical Center Chaplains; and

Whereas, he was also director of the Lexington County Recreation Basketball League, treasurer of the Lexington County Recreation Board of Directors for Baseball, president of the Swansea High School Booster Club, and a member of the committee that interviewed candidates for Swansea High School’s new football coach; 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,” Pastor Wilder has demonstrated to others how to be “steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, wishes to express its grateful thanks to Pastor Wilder and wish him God’s best as he continues to run the race the Lord has set before him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the Reverend Terry C. Wilder, pastor of Swansea First Baptist Church, for his twenty years of ministry to his congregation and community and wish him God’s richest blessings as he continues to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Reverend Terry C. Wilder.

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