**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND WILLIAM N. YARBER, PASTOR OF RIDGE BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH IN BATESBURG‑LEESVILLE, FOR HIS TWENTY‑FIVE YEARS OF GOSPEL MINISTRY 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 Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to nurture the souls of men; and

Whereas, the Reverend William N. Yarber, pastor of Ridge Branch Baptist Church in Batesburg‑Leesville, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by clerical colleagues, laymen, and the surrounding community alike; and

Whereas, on March 15, 1987, Ridge Branch Baptist Church selected Reverend Yarber as its new pastor, and during his quarter century of administration the church has prospered in the providence of God. Services were increased from two Sundays per month to four, the Reverend C.J. Whitaker Educational Building was dedicated in 1991, the front entrance was added and the paving of the grounds completed in 1999, and the church welcomed its first woman pastor in 2006; and

Whereas, additionally, in 2009 extensive construction commenced that included, among other projects, roofing the entire church; replacing the steeple, carpet, and other flooring; adding a sound system with keyboard; and creating handicapped‑accessible restrooms; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Reverend Yarber, the small but active congregation of Ridge Branch Baptist has learned to walk by faith, leaning on God’s everlasting arms; 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,” Reverend Yarber has demonstrated to others how to be “steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; and

Whereas, to honor Reverend Yarber on the occasion of his twenty‑fifth pastoral anniversary, his congregation has set aside Sunday, March 25, 2012, as a time of celebration; and

Whereas, the Senate, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, expresses its grateful thanks to Reverend Yarber and wishes him God’s best 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 the Reverend William N. Yarber, pastor of Ridge Branch Baptist Church in Batesburg‑Leesville, for his twenty‑five years of Gospel ministry 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 William N. Yarber.

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