**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL OF COLUMBIA ON THE OCCASION OF THE CHURCH’S BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DURING 2012 AND TO EXTEND THE APPRECIATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE CHURCH’S SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SHAPING THE LIVES OF SO MANY CITIZENS OF THIS GREAT STATE.

Whereas, churches in the Palmetto State provide encouragement and support to their members and promote the spiritual growth of their congregations through Bible lessons, songs of praise, and other ministerial work; and

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate to recognize the invaluable work of clergy and members of churches in teaching spiritual principles and advocating for peace among all peoples; and

Whereas, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral has announced that 2012 will mark the bicentennial of this stately and prominent downtown Columbia church; and

Whereas, designated a cathedral in 1977, Trinity Episcopal for two hundred years has been a dedicated and generous friend to the citizens of Columbia and is held in high regard by area residents, as well as the people of South Carolina at large; and

Whereas, what is now one of the largest Episcopal churches in the United States began as a mission in Columbia with a little congregation that held its first church services in the original South Carolina State House. The spiritual heirs of those early pioneers, Trinity’s present members, are planning a nine‑month celebration of the church’s bicentennial that will begin with a special service on Sunday, October 7, 2012, in the newly restored Trinity sanctuary; and

Whereas, the church has served as the principal place of worship for numerous governors, state legislators, and many other prominent officials in the State of South Carolina since 1812; and

Whereas, the past and present congregations of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral have always provided stalwart support during times of state or national crisis, including the ultimate sacrifice made by many of its members during wars in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; and

Whereas, since its founding in 1812 as “an Episcopal outpost in the back country,” as South Carolina historian Dr. Walter Edgar records it, Trinity has existed as a bedrock of Christian values and has sought to exemplify those values in its community life. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Trinity Episcopal Cathedral of Columbia on the occasion of the church’s bicentennial celebration during 2012 and extend the appreciation of the South Carolina General Assembly for the church’s significant role in shaping the lives of so many citizens of this great State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the congregation of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral of Columbia.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑