**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR BISHOP DR. RAYMOND BROWN, PASTOR AND FOUNDER OF SPIRITUAL BIRTH MINISTRIES, INTERNATIONAL, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR TEN YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE NEEDS OF ORANGEBURG.

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina are pleased to learn that from April 22 through 29, 2012, Spiritual Birth Ministries, International, will celebrate a decade of devoted leadership that founder Bishop Dr. Raymond Brown has provided his congregation in the City of Orangeburg; and

Whereas, born in The Bronx, New York, Raymond Brown graduated from North High School and studied at Benedict College, majoring in English education and media arts, and he holds a doctoral degree from Overcoming College of Religion; and

Whereas, at the age of thirty‑four, he has been in the pastorate for fifteen years, and ten years ago he founded Spiritual Birth Ministries, International, in Orangeburg; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Bishop Brown in those few years, the church has purchased and paid for a church building, situated on three acres, which seats over two hundred people; and

Whereas, the church has extensive plans for expansion in order to provide for more of the significant needs in the community, and with the hope of acquiring new parcels of land, the congregation intends to begin groundbreaking on the existing church property in the near future; and

Whereas, working in close alliance with the New Brooklyn Community Association, the congregation has hosted several free neighborhood barbeques and Easter egg hunts, sponsored projects to provide school supplies for back‑to‑school, and catered meals for seniors in the community; and

Whereas, Pastor Brown is a licensed Christian counselor with the State and volunteers at the New Direction Crisis and Prevention Center, as well as in local hospitals and nursing homes; and

Whereas, he has also been commissioned to hold crusades overseas in such places as Jamaica, Barbados, and parts of Africa; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the contributions that Bishop Dr. Raymond Brown has made to his community and for his decade‑long example of devotion to Spiritual Birth Ministries, International. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Bishop Dr. Raymond Brown, pastor and founder of Spiritual Birth Ministries, International, and congratulate him for ten years of dedicated service to the needs of Orangeburg.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Bishop Dr. Raymond Brown.

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