**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND DR. JOHN V. PLATT, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF SPRING VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH IN COLUMBIA, FOR HIS FIFTY‑TWO 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 House of Representatives honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to succor the souls of men; and

Whereas, the Reverend Dr. John V. Platt, associate pastor of Spring Valley Baptist Church in Columbia, 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 a long and fruitful ministry, John Platt graduated from Denmark High School and furthered his studies at Furman University in Greenville, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology. Proceeding to graduate work, he earned a bachelor of divinity at Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, and his doctor of ministry at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey; and

Whereas, in the early days, he served the Lord at both Sycamore Baptist Church in Sycamore and Kingsburg Baptist Church in Kingsburg as a student pastor; and

Whereas, he began his first full‑fledged pastorate in 1963 with Dalzell Baptist Church in Dalzell, where he served until 1966. Three more pastorates followed, at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Laurens (1966‑1974), Fairforest Baptist Church in Fairforest (associate pastor, 1974‑1976), and Clearview Baptist Church (1977‑1980). During these years, Dr. Platt also served as a chaplain for the South Carolina Department of Corrections (1965‑1966 and 1974‑1977); and

Whereas, from 1980 to 1995, John Platt, in a change of ministry focus, became director of missions for Moriah Baptist Association in Lancaster. He next served in the same capacity for Columbia Metro Baptist Association from 1995 to 2003, at which time he began ministering as an interim pastor; and

Whereas, after interim pastorates at Westside Baptist Church in West Columbia and Stephen Greene Baptist Church in Winnsboro, Dr. Platt took up his duties at Spring Valley Baptist Church in Columbia as interim minister of education and administration and later as associate pastor, a post he fills with distinction to the present day; 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,” Dr. Platt has demonstrated to others how to be “steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; and

Whereas, to celebrate his life and fifty‑two years of Gospel ministry, the congregation of Spring Valley Baptist Church has set aside Sunday, February 26, 2012, as “John Platt Day” and will host a program and reception to honor Dr. Platt; 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 Dr. John Platt 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 Dr. John V. Platt, associate pastor of Spring Valley Baptist Church in Columbia, for his fifty‑two 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 Dr. John V. Platt.

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