**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH UNION UPON ITS SIXTY‑SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF UNITY AND FELLOWSHIP, AND TO WISH THE MEMBER CHURCHES MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED BLESSINGS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Christian Church Union will celebrate its sixty‑second anniversary on June 1, 2012; and

Whereas, organized in 1950, the founders of the Christian Church Union: Sister Rebecca Miller, Sister Annabelle Gadson, and Sister Elouise Garvin, all of Bethel Baptist Church of Hollywood; and Leader Moses Middleton, Sr., of St. Mark AME Church, had a vision to unite the churches of the community together; and

Whereas, in 1982 Leader Moses Middleton, Jr., was elected by the new officers to lead the churches as the sixth president of the Christian Church Union, and he has been the longest‑serving president to date and gave the group its first and continuous theme: “Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”; and

Whereas, the churches that are now members of the Christian Church Union have grown to include Allen AME Church, Reverend Arthur Holmes; Bethel AME Church, Reverend Toney J. Slater, Jr.; Bethel Baptist Church, Reverend John Smith; St. James Baptist Church, Reverend Shelia Nesbitt; St. John Baptist Church, Reverend Keith Cochran; St. Mark AME Church, Reverend Barbara Fludd; St. Luke AME Church, Reverend Dr. Daniel Simmons; St. Paul AME Church, Reverend Robert Gordon; Wesley UM Church, Reverend Keith Hunter; St. Phillip AME Church, Reverend Walter R. Middleton; and

Whereas, the chairmen from the participating churches are Leader L. Brown and Sister Ethel Drayton from Allen AME Church, Leader Kenneth Smalls from Bethel AME Church, Deacon Billy Caulder and Deacon Willie Brooks from Bethel Baptist Church, Sister Leland Richards and Deacon John Heyward from St. James Baptist Church, Deacon David Kinlaw and Deacon Clifford Troy Washington from St. Johns Baptist Church, Sister Delores Murdaugh and Sister Irene Hodges from St. Mark AME Church, Sister Celestine Harris from St. Luke AME Church, Brother Cleveland Grant and Leader Terry Wright from St. Paul AME Church, Sister Carolyn White from Wesley UM Church, and Leader Randolph Johnson from St. Phillip AME Church; and

Whereas, serving as the organization’s officers are Reverend Phillip Grant, president; Leader James Mitchell, vice president; Sister Josephine Matthews, secretary; Sister Carolyn White, assistant secretary; Ellabell Harrison, treasurer; and Sister Evelyn Scott, chaplain; and

Whereas, the Finance Committee includes Leader Leonard Brown, Deacon Billy Caulder, Deacon Benjamin Ward, and Leader Terry Wright. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Christian Church Union upon its sixty‑second anniversary of unity and fellowship, and wish the member churches many years of continued blessings.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the President, Reverend Phillip Grant.

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