**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR REVEREND EDWARD MCCLAIN, OF CHARLESTON, PASTOR OF CALVARY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY‑THREE YEARS OF DEVOTED PASTORAL MINISTRY, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED JOY IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting and proper that the members of the South Carolina Senate should pause in their deliberations to express their deep gratitude to Reverend Edward McClain for decades of contribution and service to his God and to his community; and

Whereas, a native of Awendaw, he was educated in the public schools of Charleston County and earned a bachelor’s from the District of Columbia Teachers College and a master’s in education from George Washington University, both in Washington, D. C., and an educational specialist degree from The Citadel. He attended the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and earned a doctorate from Campbell Bible College; and

Whereas, for thirty‑seven years, he served in the field of education as a teacher and assistant principal in two Washington, D. C., schools and then as an Assistant Principal of Wallace Middle School in Charleston and Principal of Edith L. Frierson Elementary School on Wadmalaw Island, before he retired as the Principal of Norman C. Toole Middle School in North Charleston; and

Whereas, he also served as a radio announcer for thirty‑seven years for Citadel Communication Broadcasting Company and is a member of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, the NAACP, Phi Delta Kappa, and a life member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; and

Whereas, dedicated to public service, he was appointed to serve on the first Charleston County Users Fee Board and on the Charleston County Aviation Authority Board and was elected to the Charleston County School District 10 School Board; and

Whereas, he served as a member of the board of directors for the Charleston Development Academy Charter School, Inc., for the Sea Island Comprehensive Health Incorporation, and for the Low Country Food Bank Kid’s Café; was the co‑founder of Youth Partnerships for a Healthy Community; was the Vice President of the National Alliance of Church and Social Action over Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina; and was the Chairman of both the Noisette Prisoner Re‑entry Housing Committee and the Awendaw Community Council; and

Whereas, for his dedication and outstanding service, Reverend McClain was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the state’s highest civilian honor, by Governor Mark Sanford in 2006; and

Whereas, he served as the Chairman of the African Methodist Episcopal Ministers Alliance of Charleston and the Low Country; was founder and Chairman of the Tri‑County Interdenominational Ministers Alliance and now serves as its Vice Chairman; and is the Executive Director of Trident Outreach Ministries; and

Whereas, with his beloved wife of fifty‑three years, the former Sallie S. White of Awendaw, he reared nine outstanding children, two boys and seven girls, who blessed their parents with thirty‑five grandchildren and fourteen great‑grandchildren. In 2001, the McClains were honored as South Carolina Parents of the Year; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate Reverend McClain’s years of unparalleled service and dedication to his church and to his community and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑deserved retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Reverend Edward McClain, of Charleston, pastor of Calvary African Methodist Episcopal Church, upon the occasion of his retirement after thirty‑three years of devoted pastoral ministry, and wish him continued joy in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Edward McClain.

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