**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE PLEASANT HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN LEXINGTON ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the Senate are pleased to learn that Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church, in Lexington, will celebrate its sesquicentennial anniversary on Sunday, July 12, 2015; and

Whereas, in 1865, on land given by Dr. Bell, the forefathers of Belleville Baptist Church met to pray and sing praises to God for bringing them through slavery; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Reverend John Bates, the church’s first pastor, Belleville Baptist Church was renamed Pleasant Hill Baptist Church; and

Whereas, throughout its extended history, the church has been led by fourteen pastors, dedicated to the work of the Lord. The church is currently led by Reverend Eugene Rush, Jr., who has served as pastor since 2005; and

Whereas, the church will celebrate this extraordinary milestone on July 12, 2015, with a morning worship service led by guest minister Reverend Dr. Carson E. Wise, Sr., pastor of New Bethany Baptist Church in Washington, DC, and with an afternoon gathering to remember the past, enjoy special music, and hear a message from the Reverend Raymond Adams of Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Greenwood; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate celebrates this significant milestone of a century and a half of meaningful spiritual ministry to the congregation and to the community of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and congratulate Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington on the occasion of its historic one hundred fiftieth anniversary and commend the church for more than a century of service to God and the community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reverend Eugene Rush, Jr., pastor of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

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