**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR PASTOR CURTIS L. JOHNSON OF VALLEY BROOK OUTREACH BAPTIST CHURCH IN PELZER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS TWENTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF GOSPEL MINISTRY AT VALLEY BROOK 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 Senate honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to nurture the souls of men. Pastor Curtis L. Johnson of Valley Brook Outreach Baptist Church in Pelzer stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, a native of Greenville, Curtis Johnson is a 1985 graduate of J.L. Mann High School. After receiving his diploma, he joined the United States Air Force, in which he served for four years. In further preparation for his life’s work, Pastor Johnson earned his master of divinity from the M. Christopher White School of Divinity at Gardner‑Webb University; and

Whereas, since 1993, he has served as senior pastor of Valley Brook Outreach Baptist Church. He is also a former South Carolina state overseer for the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship; and

Whereas, Pastor Johnson believes strongly in active involvement with his community, and his convictions have led him to serve that community in several capacities. He is currently chairman of the board for one of the leading anti‑poverty community‑action agencies in this great State, SHARE (Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources). In addition, he is a member of the Greenville Health System Diversity Advisory Committee and serves on a similar committee for Greenville Technical College. He is also a graduate of the Diversity Leadership Academy through Furman University; and

Whereas, further, Curtis Johnson is the founder and chair of the MLK Dream Weekend, the community‑wide celebration for Greenville in honor of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday. This ten‑year multi‑event effort has currently produced over one million dollars in scholarships all across the Upstate, as well as many jobs and life‑changing opportunities for young and old alike; and

Whereas, to address violence in the community, inspire youth and adults of the Upstate to embrace a nonviolent lifestyle, and improve quality of life in the area, Pastor Johnson organized the 107 Days of Nonviolence service project. This effort helped account for a fifteen percent reduction in violent crime in Greenville County during the 107 days. As Gospel director of WJMZ | 107.3 JAMZ, Pastor Johnson received the South Carolina Broadcaster Service Award for this service project. He also received the Presidential Lifetime Volunteer Service Award from the Obama Administration; and

Whereas, Pastor Johnson’s vision is to build lives, relationships, and communities through the message and ministry of the kingdom of God in Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, Curtis Johnson considers it one of the greatest triumphs of his life that he was able to persuade the lovely Charla Johnson to become his wife. Married for twenty‑seven years, the Johnsons are the proud parents of two fine sons, Isaiah and Joshua; and

Whereas, the Senate, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, wishes to express its grateful thanks to Pastor Johnson 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 Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, honor Pastor Curtis L. Johnson of Valley Brook Outreach Baptist Church in Pelzer on the occasion of his twenty‑fifth anniversary of Gospel ministry at Valley Brook 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 presented to Pastor Curtis L. Johnson.

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