**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR DR. EDWARD MILTON CARNEY, PASTOR OF RIVERLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER ALMOST FORTY YEARS OF EXEMPLARY MINISTRY, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have learned that Dr. Edward Milton Carney will begin a well‑deserved retirement after nearly forty years as a faithful and humble minister of the Gospel, the last twenty‑six of which have been as the highly‑regarded pastor of Riverland Hills Baptist Church in Irmo; and

Whereas, from what is now Anderson University, Dr. Carney earned an associate degree, followed by a bachelor’s degree from Mars Hill College in North Carolina. He later earned a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and a doctor of ministry degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisiana; and

Whereas, a chaplain in the United States Naval Reserve from 1978 to 1985, he served with distinction and achieved the rank of lieutenant commander; and

Whereas, Pastor Carney served as the pastor of Second Baptist Church in Manning, First Baptist Church in Andrews, Highland Park Baptist Church in Hanahan, and Ashley River Baptist Church in Charleston before coming to Riverland Hills Baptist Church as the senior pastor in 1991; and

Whereas, when he began serving Riverland Hills’ congregation, the membership was almost eighteen hundred, and under his ministry, membership has more than tripled; and

Whereas, Pastor Carney led the congregation during its transition from the former campus encompassing six acres on St. Andrews Road in Columbia to its new sixty‑one‑acre campus in Irmo in 2005, and since then new buildings and athletic fields have joined the sanctuary on the church campus; and

Whereas, dedicated to his denomination, he served as president of the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and on numerous committees for the Convention; and

Whereas, he and his beloved wife, the former Susan Godley, reared two outstanding daughters, Erin Fennell and Brett Brown, and these children have blessed their parents with the affection of five grandchildren: Jack Fennell, Avery Fennell, Miles Fennell, Quin Brown, and Gavin Brown; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives values the years of unparalleled dedication that Dr. Carney has devoted to shepherding his congregations while being a steadfast defender of the Christian faith, and the members wish him many years of enjoyment in his well‑earned retirement. 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, congratulate and honor Dr. Edward Milton Carney, pastor of Riverland Hills Baptist Church, upon the occasion of his retirement after almost forty years of exemplary ministry, and wish him continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Edward Milton Carney.

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