**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO WELCOME REVEREND DR. JERRY YOUNG TO SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL AND MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA ON MAY 10, 2018, AND TO THANK HIM FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR NATION AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.

Whereas, Dr. Young graduated from Coahoma Junior College in Clarksdale, Mississippi, with an associate’s degree in social science. He furthered his education by graduating from Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi, with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and social welfare. He then earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He was later honored with an honorary doctorate degree from Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Dr. Young began his journey in ministry at the age of seventeen, serving at Mt. Tennia Baptist Church in Lamont, Mississippi. This extended to his service as pastor of St. John and Pilgrim Rest Baptist churches, both in Greenville, Mississippi. From here he went on to lead a congregation as Pastor at New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. In 1982, he founded and served as headmaster of New Hope Christian Preschool and New Hope Christian Elementary School to further evangelize to his flock. Since then, he has served in multiple capacities. He is the former homiletics instructor of MS Baptist Seminary, the former adjunct instructor in homiletics for Reformed Theological Seminary, and has served on the Ministerial Advisory Board at the same institution. He has also served as the president of the General Missionary Baptist State Convention of MS, Inc., for twelve years. Prior to serving as president of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., he filled the roles of 2nd Vice President for ten years and Vice‑President‑at‑Large for four years. He is a board member of Belhaven University and Rust College; and

Whereas, with a focus on community service, Dr. Young has aided the community in a multitude of manners. He is a former board member of the Planning Board for the City of Jackson and Catholic Charities. He also is a former member of the Mayor’s Committee on Partnership Against Crime, a former commissioner for the Mayor’s Community and Economic Development Commission in Jackson, Mississippi, and a former board chairman for New Hope Alcohol & Drug Three Quarter Way House, also in Jackson, Mississippi; and

Whereas, throughout his dedication to community service, he has earned numerous awards, including Blackmississippi.com’s Most Influential African American in Mississippi, the 2000 Mississippi Man of the Year, the 2004 Mississippi Majesty Award for “Living African American Legends”, the 2006 Magnolia Bar Association Harriet Tubman Award, and the Phi Beta Sigma Lifetime Achievement Award in Religion; and

Whereas, his commitment to bettering lives does not end with those in the United States, but extends to include people in need from other countries. He has led mission trips to Honduras and Malawi and helped with disaster relief efforts in Haiti after the 2009 earthquake and helped those harmed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012; and

Whereas, Dr. Young’s accomplishments are almost too numerous to list as he has devoted his life to helping others in a plethora of ways. Perhaps one of his greatest accomplishments occurred in 1974 when he married the love of his life, the former Ms. Helen Akins. Their lives were further blessed with the birth of two daughters, Dr. Jerlen (Matthew) Young-Canada and Mrs. Kelli (Benjamin) Hart, and their three adorable granddaughters and two precious grandsons; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are grateful for the services rendered by Reverend Dr. Jerry Young in his life’s commitment to serving the Lord and for the legacy he has created and welcome him to our beautiful State with open arms. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, welcome Reverend Dr. Jerry Young to South Carolina for the Baptist Education and Missionary Convention of South Carolina on May 10, 2018, and thank him for his service to our Nation as President of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Dr. Jerry Young.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑