**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF EUREKA FOR A CENTURY AND A HALF OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO EXTEND WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE CHURCH’S HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, having been founded in 1868, Springfield Missionary Baptist Church of Eureka will celebrate its historic one hundred fiftieth anniversary on May 20, 2018; and

Whereas, the biblical phrase “for where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” describes the Christian belief of the small group of worshippers who assembled a century and a half ago to organize Springfield Missionary Baptist Church. Birthed under the leadership of Reverend Davis, the newly fledged church was a success. Members walked miles to worship there. Unfortunately, only one deacon who served under Reverend Davis is now remembered: Deacon Harry Toney; and

Whereas, Springfield’s second pastor was the beloved Reverend Wade Morris. During his tenure, many members were added to the church and baptized. At this time, the church building was destroyed by fire, and services were held temporarily under a brush harbor; and

Whereas, the next pastor, the Reverend Levi Jones, led the congregation in erecting another building. Membership was large, and services were a blessing. After the death of Pastor Jones, the Reverend J.C. Dean became Springfield’s undershepherd. Sadly, during his tenure the church building was destroyed by fire a second time, but it was rebuilt, and Springfield continued to prosper; and

Whereas, over the years, many other fine servants of the Lord served as pastor. During the ministry of the Reverend Jordan Bussey, the present church building was erected. Following Pastor Bussey, who served for fourteen years, the Reverend Ronald Coleman assumed the responsibility of pastoring Springfield in 1974. Many necessary improvements were made, including the construction of a church vestibule and new roof; and

Whereas, since those earlier days, numerous improvements and additions have been incorporated into the church’s facilities and numerous ministries instituted. Wednesday‑night prayer services, spring revival, Springfield Women’s Missionary Society, the Brotherhood Club, Wednesday‑night Bible study, Vacation Bible School, boys’ basketball, and spiritual counseling services are among the ministries inaugurated along the way; and

Whereas, under the leadership of its pastors, the church has witnessed significant spiritual growth. Through its pastors’ vision and caring leadership and the congregation’s dependence on God’s guidance and grace, Springfield has realized the richness of God’s love and power and has continued the effort of improving members’ lives, their church, and their community. Present‑day members are led by the Reverend Reginald White, who serves as pastor, as well as Deacon Herbert Blocker, Trustee Eugene Thomas, and Treasurer Robert Stallworth; and

Whereas, Springfield Missionary Baptist Church has been a beacon of light in Eureka for one hundred fifty years, and God willing, will continue its godly heritage in many more years of worship and service. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commend Springfield Missionary Baptist Church of Eureka for a century and a half of service to the community and extend warmest congratulations on the occasion of the church’s historic one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Reverend Reginald White for Springfield Missionary Baptist Church.

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