**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND JAMES D. LEE, PASTOR OF MOUNT MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH OF JENKINSVILLE, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF GOSPEL MINISTRY THROUGHOUT FAIRFIELD COUNTY, TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, 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. The Reverend James D. Lee, pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church of Jenkinsville, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, the oldest son of seven children born to Council T. and Odella J. Lee of Statesboro, Georgia, the young James D. Lee was educated in the Bulloch County public school system and graduated from William James High School. Heeding the call of his country, he then joined the United States Army and served two tours in South Vietnam. Having achieved the rank of command sergeant major, he retired in June 1985 from Fort Jackson after twenty‑three years of exceptionally meritorious service; and

Whereas, this graduate of Midlands Technical College enjoyed working in management for over twenty‑two years in the food service industry and retired in November 2007. He received many awards during his honored military and food service careers, such as being named Boss of the Year by the Midlands Chapter of the American Business Women’s Association; and

Whereas, in 1982, James Lee joined First Nazareth Baptist Church. Over the years, he has joyfully served there in the capacity of usher, president of the Sunshine Garden Club Ministry, kitchen coordinator, church school superintendent, trustee, deacon, and associate minister. He diligently served with the Capital City Union Usher Ministry as a member and chaplain. He was honored with various awards for his labors for the Lord in these ministries; and

Whereas, in further preparation for his ministry, he graduated from the Morris College Ministerial Extension Course in April 2006. Called by God to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, James Lee delivered his initial sermon in December 2006 at First Nazareth Baptist Church, during the pastorate of the Reverend Dr. Blakely N. Scott. In December 2007, he was ordained by the South Carolina Midlands Baptist Association. Shortly thereafter, having been called to pastor Mount Moriah Baptist Church, he was installed in January 2008. He has now served the church for twelve years. Under the leadership of Pastor Lee, Mt. Moriah has paid off the church mortgage, installed a video and sound system in the sanctuary and fellowship hall, become an active member of the Midlands Baptist Association, and initiated several new ministries, such as the Senior Citizen Committee, Men’s Choir, Youth Ministry, Golf Ministry, and Fairfield County Faith‑Based Outreach; and

Whereas, Reverend Lee finds strength for his labors in the strong support of his beloved wife, the former Brenda G. Lemons; their three children, Lorie Anderson, Tonia R.Y. Lee, and Donald D. Lee; ten wonderful grandchildren; and seven delightful great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, the Senate, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in expressing grateful thanks to Reverend Lee and in wishing 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 the Reverend James D. Lee, pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church of Jenkinsville, for his many years of gospel ministry throughout Fairfield County, congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement, 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 the Reverend James D. Lee.

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