**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE NEW ENOREE BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEWBERRY COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR A CENTURY AND A HALF OF SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, founded in 1868, New Enoree Baptist Church of Newberry County is celebrating its one hundred fiftieth anniversary of Gospel ministry in 2018; and

Whereas, New Enoree, led by the Reverend Rinzee Stansberry as pastor, has sought to carry out the Great Commission with faithfulness and dedication; and

Whereas, the church records a history dating back to a time when its people worshipped in the balcony of the “white Enoree Baptist Church,” as was common for most religious institutions in those days. In 1868, however, with Reverend Alfred Reeder serving as undershepherd, the first black Enoree Baptist Church was constructed through the dedication and faithfulness of several families; and

Whereas, in 1920, under the leadership of Reverend W.P. Peterson, a new church was built and renamed the New Enoree Baptist Church to distinguish it from the parent church, which is still in close proximity; and

Whereas, by God’s grace, New Enoree’s history has spanned more than one hundred fifty years, and its congregation, having weathered the storms and triumphantly celebrated the victories the years have brought, continues to pass on a rich heritage of faith. As a part of that heritage, New Enoree also continues to meet the needs of its people and of the community with the help of the Lord; and

Whereas, standing on the faith and strength of its early pastors and members, New Enoree’s present congregation “press[es] toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14), continuing to preach and teach the Word of God; and

Whereas, New Enoree Baptist Church has been a beacon of light and a community worship center in Newberry County for one hundred fifty years, and, God willing, will continue its godly heritage for 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, congratulate New Enoree Baptist Church of Newberry County on the occasion of its historic one hundred fiftieth anniversary and commend the church for a century and a half of service to God and the community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to New Enoree Baptist Church.

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