**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND EUGENE COLLINS, SR., SENIOR PASTOR OF SHILOH AME CHURCH IN CHARLESTON, FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS IN GOSPEL MINISTRY; TO THANK HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, AND OUR NATION; AND TO WISH HIM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS HE CONTINUES TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate to celebrate those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to nurture the souls of men. The Reverend Eugene Collins, Sr., senior pastor of Shiloh AME Church in Charleston, 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 youngest of nine children born to Thomas and Helen Collins, the Reverend Eugene Collins, Sr., is a native of Camden. He received his early educational training at Kirkwood Elementary, Jackson Junior High, and Jackson High in Camden; and

Whereas, continuing his education, in 1976 he earned an associate degree in police administration from Midlands Technical College in Columbia. He is a 1978 graduate of Charleston Southern University in North Charleston, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in political science. Later, he completed an associate degree in security administration from the Community College of the Air Force at Charleston Air Force Base in North Charleston. In addition, in 2001 he received his master of divinity from Erskine Theological Seminary in Due West; and

Whereas, Reverend Collins, a retired law enforcement officer with over thirty‑five years of service to the State of South Carolina, served with the South Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission and the State Law Enforcement Division. He is also a retired master sergeant military policeman with the U.S. Air Force Active and Reserve Forces. He is a member of many professional and civic organizations; and

Whereas, above all, Reverend Collins seeks to serve the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind; and

Whereas, Eugene Collins finds strength for his labors in the firm support of his family. Married to the Reverend Elizan Washington Collins, he and his wife are the proud parents of three children, Dr. Jeannie Collins Lawrence, Kimberly Edith Collins, and Eugene Collins, Jr. The senior Collinses are also the delighted grandparents of two boys, Jaden Omari and Braelyn Jeremiah; and

Whereas, because of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, Reverend Collins deserves grateful thanks, as well as fervent wishes for God’s best in his life and ministry, as he continues to run the race the Lord has set before him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the Reverend Eugene Collins, Sr., senior pastor of Shiloh AME Church in Charleston, for his faithfulness in Gospel ministry; thank him for his many years of service to the community, our State, and our nation; 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 Eugene Collins, Sr.

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