**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND ST. PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF IRMO UPON THE OCCASION OF IRMO’S MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION.

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives are pleased to learn that St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church and the congregation’s pastor, Reverend Steven L. Evans, hosted Irmo’s sixth Martin Luther King (MLK) Celebration on Monday, January 21, 2019; and

Whereas, Irmo’s first MLK Celebration was held in 2014 at historic Macedonia Baptist Church in the heart of the Irmo Community to celebrate and commemorate the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his influence and impact in shaping the communities in which we live; and

Whereas, Reverend C. J. Butler, Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, spoke at that first celebration, and Larry Haltiwanger served as the master of ceremonies. Mayor Hardy King gave greetings from the City of Irmo, and the Community Choir entertained the audience with uplifting music; and

Whereas, the presiding officer for this year’s program was Larry Haltiwanger, and the Martin Luther King Community Choir provided musical entertainment, along with the Pine Grove Soulful Symphony; and

Whereas, with an emphasis young people, many young participants accepted the challenge to continue in the tradition of those who have gone before. In keeping with the highlight on youth, the celebration speaker was Trey Williams, a graduate from Lexington School District Five and currently a sophomore at the University of South Carolina‑Aiken majoring in biology with the goal of becoming a cardiologist; and

Whereas, once again, the organizers of the event sponsored a benevolent project, this year assisting children in South Carolina dealing with cancer and their families through a donation to Children’s Chance; and

Whereas, this theme for the 2019 event, “One World Unity,” was based on Psalm 133:1, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity”; and

Whereas, numerous elected officials were on hand to offer their appreciation for the event, along with participation from talented students in the community; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives values the dedication of those who have labored in Irmo to preserve the legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., through its MLK Celebration, and the members celebrate with them upon the occasion of this meaningful event. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church of Irmo upon the occasion of Irmo’s Martin Luther King Celebration.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Steven L. Evans.

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