**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEMORATE THE MOMENTOUS OCCASION OF THE TWO HUNDRED THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF BROWNSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH IN BLENHEIM, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO CELEBRATE OVER TWO CENTURIES OF COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives deem it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to honor over two centuries of dedication to the Lord and the community of Blenheim by Brownsville Baptist Church; and

Whereas, Brownsville Baptist Church was constituted in 1789, but its history began long before. In 1738, Welsh Neck Church was established by Welsh settlers on the Great Pee Dee River. A branch of that church constituted Cashaway Church and began gathering in a log meeting house, which later became the site of a skirmish during the Revolutionary War; and

Whereas, on August 15, 1789, members of Cashaway Church constituted Muddy Creek Church at Cleveland Hill on land that had been purchased from the Reverend John Brown the year prior. In 1829, the members of Muddy Creek Church changed its name to Brownsville Baptist Church; and

Whereas, in 1977, the original church structure whose construction dated back to 1860 was destroyed by the ravages of fire. Church members, neighbors, and passing motorists were able to save some church fixtures, including the pews and pulpit furniture; and

Whereas, in 1979, construction of the new sanctuary was completed. The reconstructed church was built to closely resemble the earlier structure that had been destroyed by fire and was equipped with the original pine pews and pulpit furniture rescued from the burning building. On April 15, 1979, the first services were held in the new sanctuary and the sanctuary was subsequently dedicated on July 29th; and

Whereas, on August 13,1989, to mark its milestone two hundredth anniversary, the congregation dedicated two South Carolina historical markers which had been erected at Cleveland Hill and at the present church site; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are grateful for the legacy of love and faith exhibited by the members of the historic Brownsville Baptist Church and look forward to many more years of the continuation of this legacy. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commemorate the momentous occasion of the two hundred thirtieth anniversary of the founding of Brownsville Baptist Church in Blenheim, South Carolina, and celebrate over two centuries of commitment to the community.

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

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