**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BROOM HILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF REMBERT ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED FIFTY‑FIRST ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY AND A HALF OF SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, founded in 1866, Broom Hill Baptist Church of Rembert is celebrating its one hundred fifty‑first anniversary of Gospel ministry in 2019; and

Whereas, Broom Hill, led by the Reverend Leroy Sims, Jr., as pastor, has sought to serve the Lord with faithfulness; and

Whereas, the church, located on South Carolina Highway 261 south of Camden, began when a small group of worshippers held meetings under a brush harbor called Spring Branch. The meetings were moved to a small cabin in 1868, which began the organization of the church. In 1869, Mr. Tom Boykin gave the congregation three acres of land, on which a small frame structure, named Green Hill Baptist Church, was built; and

Whereas, this early congregation of Green Hill Baptist consisted of two hundred seventy‑five members and was pastored by the Reverend Cap Taylor. Reverend Taylor pastored Green Hill for nine years (1866‑1875). In 1876, Green Hill, then pastored by the Reverend Ruben Gathers, moved across the road and was renamed Broom Hill Baptist; and

Whereas, the current property of Broom Hill Baptist Church was purchased by the church from Mr. Lawrence Whitaker on October 12, 1972. In 1973, under the leadership of the Reverend James Brice, plans were made to remodel the church. Remodeling was completed in 1974, and on February 9, 1975, a commemoration and cornerstone installation ceremony was held; and

Whereas, Broom Hill Baptist Church’s structure remained the same until the 1990s. In 1993, an educational wing was added to the church, but progress did not stop there. In 1998, a building committee was formed to examine the possibility of remodeling the aging sanctuary. After much discussion, members decided to construct a new sanctuary. Under the leadership of the Reverend Anthony Woodard, construction was completed in 2000; and

Whereas, in 2011, Broom Hill Baptist Church broke ground on a new project to connect the sanctuary to the fellowship building. The connection project was completed on November 27, 2011, and features a new pastor’s study, trustee room, and educational classrooms. In addition, on March 25, 2015, the church paved the parking lots on the west and east sides of the sanctuary; and

Whereas, after Reverends Taylor and Gathers, the following pastors ministered to the church: the Reverends Ruben Boykin, Alex Aaron, Sandy Stradford, Willie Taylor, Friday Harris, W.S. McCuller, J.C. Cups, F.M. Boykin, H.A. Alexander, R.A. Carolina, James Brice, Charles Edward Smith, Willie Simon, Anthony R. Woodard, and Leroy Sims, Jr. (current pastor); and

Whereas, by God’s grace, Broom Hill’s history has spanned more than one hundred fifty years, and its congregation has weathered the storms and triumphantly celebrated the victories the years have brought; and

Whereas, Broom Hill Baptist Church has been a beacon of light and a community worship center in the Rembert area for more than 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 Broom Hill Baptist Church of Rembert on the occasion of its historic one hundred fifty‑first anniversary and commend the church for more than 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 Broom Hill Baptist Church.

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