**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MOUNT CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY, TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CHURCH FOR ITS DEEP HERITAGE IN SEABROOK, AND TO COMMEND ITS LEADERSHIP AND CONGREGATION FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Mount Carmel Baptist Church as it celebrates this important milestone; and

Whereas, in 1869, the Keans Neck Baptist Church of Dale was organized by a group of recently freed slaves under the guidance of the mother church, Tabernacle Baptist Church of Beaufort, and Reverend D. W. Blythewood of Tabernacle. The church’s first officers were Billy Middleton, Adam Snipes, Peter Rivers, Peter Maxwell, George Green, and Daniel Gadson. In 1871, the newly formed church of two hundred thirty members joined the Gethsemane Baptist Association. For thirteen years, the congregation gathered under a bush tent and in members’ homes, until the church was able to purchase land and build its first sanctuary; and

Whereas, under the leadership of the first resident pastor of the church, Reverend S. H. Chisolm, the Keans Neck Baptist Church congregation christened its sanctuary in 1882 with the new name of Mount Carmel Baptist Church. The licensed ministers at this time, known as the Sons of Mount Carmel, were Frank Williams, Peter W. Maxwell, Thomas J. Maxwell, Daniel Kline, and Thomas Maxwell, Jr., and the deacons ministry consisted of James Dawson, Isaac Coleman, Robert Prichard, Jolly Middleton, Thomas Heyward, Thomas Hunt, Parris Glover, and Moses Coakley; and

Whereas, Mount Carmel Baptist Church has been blessed with many dedicated pastors and deacons who have fostered the church’s growth over the years. Mount Carmel’s leaders have established a number of ministries and programs, including a deaconess ministry, gospel choir, youth choir, children’s church, Sunday school program, young adult department, college and scholarship ministry, scholarship fund, senior adult ministry, bereavement ministry, counseling ministry, benevolence ministry, brotherhood ministry, trustee ministry, transportation ministry, greeters ministry, hospitality ministry, annual church community picnic, local radio broadcast, Med‑I‑Assist Program, and foreign mission in the Philippines. The church’s physical structure and facilities have also undergone many changes, including the addition of a new sanctuary, S. H. Chisolm Fellowship Hall, a pastor’s study, stained‑glass windows, an organ, a van, and a digital marquee in front of the church; and

Whereas, in March, the church began to celebrate a “Year of Jubilee,” honoring Mount Carmel’s history as a house of prayer for one hundred fifty years; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the ministry of Mount Carmel Baptist Church and its service to the community of Seabrook and the State of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Mount Carmel Baptist Church upon the occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary, recognize and honor the church for its deep heritage in Seabrook, and commend its leadership and congregation for their many years of service to the community.

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

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