**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE ROBERT HEYWARD, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are delighted to learn that Reverend Robert Heyward, Sr. will celebrate his eightieth birthday in 2019; and

Whereas, Reverend Robert Heyward, Sr. is an alumnus of the Baptist Ministry Forum Divinity School and the Morris St. Ext. Theological School. He accepted the calling of the Lord and received his Certificate of Ordination in 1983. He is a born‑again, God‑called, God‑ordained, God‑sent preacher of the Gospel of Christ; and

Whereas, over the years, Reverend Heyward has been called to pastor a number of churches, including Salem Baptist Church on Wadmalaw Island, Shiloh Baptist Church, and Grace Chapel Baptist Church in Adams Run; and

Whereas, under his leadership, all of the churches he has pastored have seen great spiritual and physical growth, with many individuals coming into the kingdom of God, many growing in their faith, worship attendance growing, and the churches’ facilities expanding. His congregations now have a number of opportunities to learn the Word of God through Bible study; and

Whereas, in ministering to the needs of the total man, Reverend Heyward has dedicated his life to the Gospel Ministry, and he is most content when he is motivating people and ministering to them through the Word of God. His purpose in the ministry has been to educate, equip, and empower others to fulfill their God‑given destiny; and

Whereas, he also hopes to see his communities become actively involved in making an impact on their surrounding communities; and

Whereas, Reverend Heyward is a man with a big heart, a deep abiding compassion for all, and a dedication to excellence. He is swift to help and slow to criticize, and his passion to serve goes far beyond any traditional and usual protocol, as he demonstrates the character of Christ in his everyday living and service; and

Whereas, Reverend Heyward has been married to First Lady Richardine Garvin Heyward for fifty-eight years. To this union, five children were born. First Lady Richardine Heyward also works alongside him in the ministry as a lecturer, teacher, and leader; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this son of South Carolina at the celebration of his eightieth birthday, and the members join with his family and friends in congratulating him for reaching this important life milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Robert Heyward, Sr. on the occasion of his eightieth birthday and wish him a joyous birthday celebration and much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Robert Heyward, Sr.

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