**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE REV. DR. MICHAEL ROSS UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF NEW EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS CONGREGATION AND THE COMMUNITY OF COLUMBIA.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to recognize Rev. Dr. Michael Ross as he celebrates his thirtieth pastoral anniversary; and

Whereas, a native of Vienna, Georgia, Reverend Ross is the son of Mrs. Annie Eva Ross and the late Isaiah Ross, Sr. He matriculated at Troy State University before transferring to Mercer University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. He is also an alumnus of Gulf Coast Seminary, where he earned a Bachelor of Theology; I.T.C. Morehouse School of Religion, where he earned a Master of Divinity; and United Theological Seminary, where he earned a Doctor of Ministry. Reverend Ross also attended continuing education courses at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary; and

Whereas, a veteran of the United States Army, Reverend Ross served for four years; and

Whereas, a dynamic preacher and teacher of the gospel, Reverend Ross has served as the pastor of New Ebenezer Baptist Church since April 1989. He often preaches series of sermons that focus on a specific topic or issue, which affords his congregations a broader range of knowledge regarding these topics. He sees preaching as evangelistic, exhortational, and educational, and he has preached revivals and conducted workshops throughout the United States and abroad; and

Whereas, Reverend Ross is also an adjunct professor of religion at Morris College in its extension division and has taught at Benedict College and Voorhees College; and

Whereas, an active leader in his community and various organizations throughout the city, state, and nation, he has served as dean of the State Congress of Christian Education of the Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina; as director of Christian education of the Educational and Missionary Convention; on the faculty of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and on the program committee of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and

Whereas, he is married to the former Ms. Carolyn Lawrence. Reverend Ross has two children, Rashada T. and Michael Brandon Ross; two grandsons; and one granddaughter; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly appreciate the ministry of Rev. Dr. Michael Ross and his service to New Ebenezer Baptist Church and the community of Columbia. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Rev. Dr. Michael Ross upon the occasion of his thirtieth anniversary as pastor of New Ebenezer Baptist Church and commend him for his many years of service to his congregation and the community of Columbia.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Rev. Dr. Michael Ross.

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