**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PASTOR ANTHONY AU DWIN DICKS, SR., AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH IN COLUMBIA, AND TO SALUTE HIM FOR HIS EXTENSIVE AND MEANINGFUL MINISTRY IN HIS CITY AND COMMUNITY.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting that the members of the South Carolina Senate should pause in their deliberations to commend Pastor Anthony Au Dwin Dicks, Sr., for four decades of significant ministry at Friendship Baptist Church in Columbia; and

Whereas, born on October 22, 1955, in Columbia, he is the son of Leola N. Dicks, and when he was three years old, they moved to Aiken where he attended Aiken County public schools; and

Whereas, Pastor Dicks graduated from Aiken High School in 1973, and he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and economics in 1988 from Benedict College and studied Black liberation theology at the University of South Carolina. In 1989, he earned an associate’s degree in mortuary science from Gupton‑Jones College of Mortuary Science of Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Pastor Dicks, Sr., was licensed to preach the Gospel on June 17, 1973, and was ordained on June 16, 1974, by Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Talatha. He was called to pastor Cayce’s Mount Zion Baptist Church, and in 1980, Mount Tabor Baptist Church of Greenwood called him to pastor; and

Whereas, in January 1982, Friendship Baptist Church in Columbia issued a call to Pastor Dicks by unanimous vote, and he has served the spiritual needs of the congregation for forty years; and

Whereas, many ministries have arisen under his leadership, including the Friendship Homeless Feeding Ministry which has served over thirty thousand meals and basic needs to Columbia’s homeless community. Many souls have been won to Christ through his preaching and teaching, and he has led the church to affect even greater change in the community and city; and

Whereas, for the past twenty‑two years, he has owned and operated A. A. Dicks Funeral Home in Columbia and is a member of National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association and of the South Carolina Funeral Directors and Morticians Association; and

Whereas, he has served as volunteer chaplain for the Columbia Fire Department for the past thirty‑five years and is a member and treasurer of the Midlands Baptist Convention and serves on numerous boards and committees; and

Whereas, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the community, Pastor Dicks has twice been honored with the Key to the City of Columbia; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Denise Johnson, he reared four fine children: Shiquita D. West; Pastor Anthony A. Dicks, Jr.; Ranecci S. Hampton; and Maisha S. Wilder. His children have blessed him with the affection of twelve loving grandchildren; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate takes great pleasure in congratulating Anthony Dicks, a faithful pastor and a man of vision, as he celebrates forty years of Gospel service to his God, his community, and his congregation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution recognize and honor Pastor Anthony Au Dwin Dicks, Sr., and congratulate him, upon the occasion of his fortieth anniversary as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Columbia, and salute him for his extensive and meaningful ministry in his city and community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pastor Anthony Au Dwin Dicks, Sr.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑