**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR REVEREND BRUCE MARION CRAWFORD, PASTOR OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MYRTLE BEACH, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER FORTY‑THREE YEARS OF EXEMPLARY MINISTRY, AND TO WISH HIM HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have learned that Reverend Bruce Marion Crawford will begin a well‑deserved retirement after forty‑three years of faithful ministry, the last sixteen and a half years of which have been as the distinguished and highly‑regarded senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, although born and reared in Cocoa, Florida, he always felt an affinity for the Palmetto State as his father had been born and reared in Charleston, and he himself was named after South Carolina’s Swamp Fox, Francis Marion; and

Whereas, when Bruce Crawford was twenty‑one, he came to South Carolina to attend Columbia Bible College to prepare for his life’s calling in ministry, and he then completed his seminary studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; and

Whereas, Reverend Crawford has devoted his life to ministry for forty‑three years, first as a senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Franklin, Texas; then at Country Baptist Church of Clearwater, Florida; and concluding at First Baptist Church of Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, Reverend Crawford met his beloved wife, Lynda, when they were both enrolled as seminary students. Together in holy matrimony for forty years, they reared two fine children, Jeni Anne Obudzinski and Jared Andrew Crawford. They have been blessed with a loving grandson, Cooper; and

Whereas, on Sunday, May 2, 2021, Reverend Crawford will have delivered one thousand five hundred eighty‑five sermons at First Baptist Church of Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, while his heart and vocation have been focused on bringing souls to Christ, he plans to spend many happy hours of retirement in his avocation of bringing venison to the freezer; and

Whereas, grateful for his many years of distinguished service to his God and the Church, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives take great pleasure in extending best wishes to Reverend Crawford as he transitions to a richly deserved retirement and the unhurried pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Reverend Bruce Marion Crawford, pastor of First Baptist Church of Myrtle Beach, upon the occasion of his retirement after forty‑three years of ministry, and wish him happiness in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Bruce Marion Crawford.

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