**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE JOYOUS OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLIVE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, AND TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND PASTOR JAMES A. CROMARTIE AND THE CONGREGATION FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ORANGEBURG COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate the milestone of its centennial anniversary of worship and service in the Orangeburg community on December 19, 2010; and

Whereas, when members at Bull Swamp Baptist Church desired to begin worshipping closer to town, Dr. Heaner blessed the new congregation with a place to sing praises to God through his donation of property for the first church building and cemetery, where services were held on the first and third Sunday of every month for fifty years; and

Whereas, since its formation in 1910, Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church has stood as a beacon of the Gospel and has ministered not only to the spiritual needs of the residents of Orangeburg but also to their academic needs; and

Whereas, in 1942, the federal government erected a one‑room school on the church’s property, and thirty‑six students began their academic studies at Olive Grove School under the faithful instruction of Mrs. Addie Wittingham; and

Whereas, after fifty years of ministry in Orangeburg, a new church building was constructed when many members worked together using their own resources and skills, and services were expanded to every week; and

Whereas, with land donated by faithful member Sister Catherine Miller, God blessed the congregation with a modern sanctuary in 2005, and it sits as a jewel of hope in the community; and

Whereas, Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church has come this far by faith and hopes to continue its ministry in the Orangeburg community into the next century with sustained and renewed faith. Now, therefore,

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

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, wish to celebrate the joyous occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church, and congratulate and commend Pastor James A. Cromartie and the congregation for their years of service to the Orangeburg community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Orangeburg, South Carolina.

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