**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DEACON SAMUEL E. MILFORD OF BERKELEY COUNTY FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO DESIGNATE NOVEMBER 6, 2011, AS DEACON SAMUEL E. MILFORD DAY IN THE PALMETTO STATE.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor individuals who freely give of their time and resources for the good of others; and

Whereas, Deacon Samuel E. Milford of Berkeley County has contributed valuable community service to the citizens of the Palmetto State and is thereby worthy of praise; and

Whereas, born on March 25, 1927, in St. Stephen, Deacon Milford is the son of the late Deacon Cephus D. and Mrs. Irene Davis Milford. Known to everyone as “Gator” or just “Son,” he attended public school in his hometown; and

Whereas, Deacon Milford has been married to Lillie M. Wilder Milford for sixty‑four years, and God has blessed them with ten children: Nathaniel, Harold, Samuel, Jr., Nemiah, Bernard, Tracy, Lila, Joyce, Vermell, and Rebecca, as well as a special daughter, Daisy Nixon, and a host of grandchildren, great‑grandchildren, and other family members; and

Whereas, as a youngster, Deacon Milford was baptized at St. Stephen Baptist Church in 1939 under the leadership of Reverend Henry Haskell. He was ordained as a deacon at St. Stephen Baptist Church in 1954 under the ministry of Reverend Henry Haskell. Deacon Milford became chairman of the deacon board under Reverend F. C. Haskell’s tenure and remains in service at that post to this day. He is also a member of the church’s board of trustees and male choir; and

Whereas, after working for many years as a tractor mechanic for Aiken Mitchell Company, he retired in 1992. Shortly thereafter, finding himself not quite ready for retirement, he returned to the workforce, this time for W. W. Truck & Tractor, from which company he retired in 2009; and

Whereas, Deacon Milford, however, has never retired from serving his church and community. With visiting and helping the sick and needy as his top priority, he also helps feed the community from his garden, which he plants faithfully each year. In addition, Deacon Milford still travels all over the county repairing machines and tractors for anyone in need. A Mason and Eastern Star member, he further serves his community as a member of the NAACP and previously served on the board of the Berkeley Dorchester Economic Development Corporation; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like Deacon Samuel E. Milford who use their talents and resources to serve others. May God continue to bless Deacon Milford with health and strength as he continues to do the work of the Lord and serve the citizens of this great State. 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 Deacon Samuel E. Milford of Berkeley County for his many years of outstanding community service to the people of South Carolina, and designate November 6, 2011, as Deacon Samuel E. Milford Day in the Palmetto State.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Deacon Samuel E. Milford.

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