**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE MACEDONIA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENWOOD ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR MORE THAN ONE AND A QUARTER CENTURIES OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, having been founded in 1882, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church of Greenwood is celebrating its historic one hundred thirtieth anniversary in 2012; and

Whereas, more than one and a quarter centuries ago on the west side of Greenwood, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church had its beginnings under a bush harbor. The organizational meeting was held at the home of William and Rachel Dandy on Mineral Street, and Emma Cook gave the new church its name. In the summertime during the cool of the day, this group of faithful believers met together for prayer, singing, and worship under their bush harbor; during bad or cold weather, they met from house to house; and

Whereas, throughout its history, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has been blessed with dedicated pastors, beginning with the Reverend Charles Franklin and continuing to the present day with its current pastor, the Reverend Willie S. Harrison; and

Whereas, the years also brought new facilities to the church. The congregation progressed from a double house to a newly constructed wooden building and in 1901 moved to its present site, where members eventually constructed a brick facility. The church began to grow rapidly, made improvements to its edifice, and in 1944 had the joy of burning its mortgage; and

Whereas, when Reverend Harrison became pastor in 1975, he challenged the church to believe that “nothing is impossible when you put your trust in God.” The congregation accepted the challenge and as a result has had the pleasure of watching its budget, membership, and ministry continue to grow; and

Whereas, more specifically, under Reverend Harrison’s leadership Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has seen its facilities extensively renovated, updated, and enlarged and its property holdings increased. Macedonia Center was opened in 1977 as a place for both church and community use and has since served a multitude of purposes; and

Whereas, standing on the faith and strength of its early pastors and members, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church’s present congregation “presses toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14), continuing to preach and teach the Word of God; and

Whereas, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has been a beacon of light and a community worship center in Greenwood for one hundred thirty years, and, God willing, will continue its godly heritage in many more years of worship and service. 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 congratulate Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church of Greenwood on the occasion of its historic one hundred thirtieth anniversary and commend the church for more than one and a quarter centuries of service to the community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

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