**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF REVEREND HAYES T. GAINEY, JR., AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM AND HIS CONGREGATION FOR FOURTEEN YEARS OF DEDICATED MINISTRY TO EDISTO FORK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Edisto Fork United Methodist Church (EFUMC) will honor Reverend Hayes T. Gainey, Jr., for fourteen years of outstanding service and faithful ministry as pastor during a Pastor’s Appreciation Weekend from March 15 ‑ 17, 2013; and

Whereas, the son of the late Hayes and Earline Gainey, Hayes, Jr., was reared in Kingstree with five siblings and graduated from Kingstree Senior High School in Williamsburg County; and

Whereas, Pastor Gainey earned a bachelor’s in psychology from St. Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and, in answer to a call to ministry, he earned a master of divinity from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, he began his pastoral ministry in the North Georgia Annual Conference and later became a member of the South Carolina Annual Conference, serving as senior pastor in numerous churches and providing kind and compassionate ministry to congregations in the Palmetto State and across the nation; and

Whereas, appointed to serve the EFUMC congregation in July 1999, he has lovingly guided, preached, taught, comforted, counseled, and befriended those in his care for fourteen years; and

Whereas, under Pastor Gainey’s tireless and inspiring leadership, the church moved into a larger sanctuary at a new location, and membership has grown to more than twelve hundred. The church began new community youth programs, such as EFUMC’s Summer Enrichment and Mentoring Program and the 21st Century Afterschool Program where he served as chief administrator; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Annual Conference elected him to serve as a delegate for both the General and Jurisdictional conferences of the United Methodist Church, and he currently serves as a member of the Conference Administrative Review Committee and Conference Board of Ordained Ministries; and

Whereas, he serves as the president of the Orangeburg County Ministerial Alliance, coordinator of the State Chapter and Orangeburg District of the Black Methodist for Church Renewal, vice president of the Orangeburg branch of the Democratic Party, and chaplain of both the South Carolina State University football team and Claflin University basketball team; and

Whereas, Pastor Gainey’s tireless Christian service has garnered such awards as Eagle Award Pastor of the Year 2013 and the coveted Harry Denman Award for Evangelism; and

Whereas, together with his beloved wife, Latonya B. Gainey, he has reared three fine children: Hayes T. III, Keyona, and Jamaal, who have blessed them with an adoring grandson, Deonte; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the outstanding service that Pastor Gainey has given to Edisto Fork United Methodist Church, and the members wish him many years of continued ministry in the service of his God. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognizes and honors the exemplary service of Reverend Hayes T. Gainey, Jr., and congratulates him and his congregation for fourteen years of dedicated ministry at Edisto Fork United Methodist Church.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Reverend Hayes T. Gainey, Jr.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑