**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 4412**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

House Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Garvin, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, B.J. Cox, B.L. Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J.E. Johnson, J.L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, May, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Murphy, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Sessions, G.M. Smith, M.M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow

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Introduced in the House on April 24, 2025

Adopted by the House on April 24, 2025

Summary: Greater Carolina Baptist Church, ribbon-cutting ceremony

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

4/24/2025 House Introduced and adopted ([House Journal‑page 55](h:\hj\20250424.docx))

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4412&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[04/24/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4412_20250424.docx)

A house RESOLUTION

to congratulate greater Carolina baptist church of columbia at the celebration of the ribbon-cutting AT its new location on Saturday, may 3, 2025, and to COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR forty-three years OF SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that on Saturday, May 3, 2025, Greater Carolina Baptist Church of Columbia will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony in celebration of its new location; and

Whereas, organized and chartered by the Reverend Dr. Leon Johnson on September 27, 1981, the Greater Carolina Baptist Church of Columbia was founded with forty-five chartered members. While its earliest worship services were held at the Luther Lee Building, several months later the church moved to Columbia’s Latimer Manor Social Room. Pulpit assistants were the Reverends Thomas Marks and Cecil Guilyard, the first deacon was Adam Stewart, and the first trustee was Silas Bright. Other church workers were Emma Canzater (church secretary), Francis Thompson (financial secretary), John Robert Bright (treasurer), and Jeri Carter (church clerk). The first Greater Carolina Baptist Church Program Committee consisted of Martha Stewart, Pearl Hampton, Dorothy Lewis, Evelyn Bright, and Emma Canzater; and

Whereas, the choir began its ministry on October 3, 1981, with Willie J. Carter serving as the choir’s first musician. He further served as choir director from 1982 to 1986; and

Whereas, during its quest for a permanent home, the church moved to 1412 Kingston Road in 1982. The church building at 1419 Anthony Avenue was purchased in 1986, and more church ministries were established over time, including Bible study, as well as the Greater Carolina Baptist Church Missionary Society, Deaconess Board, Mothers of the Church, and Pastor’s Aid Committee. Further, the church held its first Vacation Bible School in 1996 and launched its first Baptist Training Union (BTU) in 2000. Under the leadership of its present minister, Pastor Jamal Bates, the church has initiated virtual worship services, Bible study, a social media platform, online giving, and Youth Sunday; and

Whereas, on Saturday, May 3, 2025, the members of Greater Carolina Baptist will unite in thanksgiving to the Lord at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate their new location. The church has experienced change since its founding in 1981 but has never lost sight of the One who gave credence to its birth, the Holy Spirit. To God be the glory!; and

Whereas, Greater Carolina Baptist Church has been a beacon of light and a community worship center in the Columbia area for forty-three years, and, God willing, will continue its godly heritage for 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, congratulate Greater Carolina Baptist Church of Columbia at the celebration of the ribbon-cutting at its new location on Saturday, May 3, 2025, and commend the church for forty-three years of service to God and the community.

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

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