**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PASTOR STEVEN BRUCE FOWLER UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PASTOR AT GRACE CHAPEL IN WEST COLUMBIA.

Whereas, Reverend Fowler was born and raised in Union County, South Carolina and began his ministry at Grace Chapel on August 30, 1970; and

Whereas, prior to beginning his ministry at Grace Chapel, Reverend Fowler served a small Methodist congregation near Fort Jackson and taught school in the Lower Richland and Hopkins areas while pursuing graduate studies at the University of South Carolina; and

Whereas, after graduating from Columbia Bible College, Reverend Fowler was ordained to the Gospel ministry by the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches and, thereafter, transferred his credentials to the Christian and Missionary Alliance; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler began his ministry at Grace Chapel on August 30, 1970, and has constantly remained a faithful and godly example for the church and community; and

Whereas, during his time at Grace Chapel, Reverend Fowler has served the congregation on many joyous occasions, such as weddings and the dedication of children, and ministered to individuals and families in difficult times, such as death, sickness, and personal loss; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler has faithfully proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ and taught the Word of God, leading his congregation to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler is married to the former Nina LeMaster and has one daughter, Amy, and four grandchildren; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler and his wife have demonstrated great generosity in their personal lives through the giving of money, food, time, and most importantly, their love to countless people throughout Dixiana, Cayce, and West Columbia; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler has served as a volunteer chaplain at Lexington Medical Center, a participating pastor in the 1987 South Carolina Billy Graham Crusade, and an active member of Greater Columbia Evangelical Pastors Fellowship; and

Whereas, Reverend Fowler’s retirement on May 31, 2009, brings to a close nearly thirty‑nine years of ministry at Grace Chapel and opens up a new phase of his life and new opportunities to expand his ministry. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, by this resolution, recognize and honor Reverend Steven Bruce Fowler upon the occasion of his retirement as pastor of Grace Chapel and wish him all the best as he enters into the next stage of his life and pursues new opportunities for ministry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Reverend Steven Bruce Fowler.

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