**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE GETHSEMANE WOMEN’S AUXILIARY OF THE GETHSEMANE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY AND TO WISH THE AUXILIARY MUCH SUCCESS AS ITS MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary of the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association is marking a century of service in 2019, to be commemorated on Friday, May 17, 2019, with a special celebratory event; and

Whereas, founded in November 1919 at Zion Baptist Church of Columbia, the auxiliary was organized under the auspices of the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association (presently composed of fifty‑two churches within Fairfield, Lexington, and Richland counties) to carry on Christian education and home and foreign missions, to promote a collaborative effort with member churches, and to serve as an integral part of the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association; and

Whereas, from 1919 to 1929, Mrs. Madora White, a member of Zion Baptist Church, served as the auxiliary’s first president; and

Whereas, over the years, the auxiliary initiated various ministries, including, in the early days, the first Benedict College and Morris College teas. In addition, the auxiliary sponsored Cora Boykin, a student from Liberia at Benedict College; began cooperative activities with Church Women United; established the Mary L. Neal Scholarship; supported Ted and Jean Wright, missionaries to Brazil; and began sponsoring mission trips to Kenya. To support heart hospitals, the auxiliary created the Red Dress Project Luncheon; and

Whereas, in recognition of their efforts, the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary received awards for sixteen years for contributing the highest financial support to Benedict College; and

Whereas, in more recent years, the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary increased its support for students in Kenya and provided funds for a dormitory at a girls’ high school in that same country; and

Whereas, serving currently as the organization’s eighth president is Mrs. Jessie H. Chandler, a member of Zion Canaan Baptist Church. Other officers include Mrs. Helen C. Schumpert, president emeritus; Dr. Gladys B. Goforth, first vice‑president emeritus; Mrs. Frances C. Fields, first vice‑president emeritus; and Mrs. Betty F. Young, second vice‑president emeritus. The present moderator of Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association is Dr. Jamey O. Graham, pastor of St. John Baptist Church; and

Whereas, the House, appreciative of the organization’s century of fine work, takes great pleasure in honoring the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary and offers best wishes for the Lord’s highest blessing on all their future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary of the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary and wish the auxiliary much success as its members continue to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Gethsemane Women’s Auxiliary.

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