

2006 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 277

Offered March 3, 2006

Commending the Lebanon Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

Patron—Puckett

WHEREAS, founded in 1856, the Lebanon Baptist Church in Russell County celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 1845, the Mission Group left the congregation of the Glade Hollow Church, organized in 1788, and decided to build a new meeting house in the Town of Lebanon, where a new congregation began to grow and flourish; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 1856, the Lebanon Baptist Church was officially established with 22 members, including two African-American members, and the Reverend William N. Huff served as the first pastor; and

WHEREAS, as the church began to grow, three other churches were organized from the congregation of Lebanon Baptist Church—in 1868, 12 African-American members formed the Cedar Hill Baptist Church; in 1894, 32 members formed the Cooper Ridge Baptist Church; in 1895, 83 members formed the Green Valley Baptist Church; in 1912, Glade Baptist Church was reorganized largely from members of Lebanon Baptist Church; and in 1982, Lebanon Baptist Church organized the Community Heights Baptist Mission, now Community Heights Baptist Church, near Southwest Virginia Community College; and

WHEREAS, the Lebanon Baptist Church building was completed in 1855 and remodeled in 1910; in 1938, the Sunday School annex was built; a new Sunday School addition was built in 1960; and, from 1973 to 1975, the church auditorium was torn down and replaced by the present structure; and

WHEREAS, an integral and dynamic part of the community and the world, the Lebanon Baptist Church participates in the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention and shares in the support of over 2,000 home missionaries in the United States and nearly 3,000 missionaries in over 90 countries around the world; and

WHEREAS, throughout its long history of ministry, community service, and missionary efforts, the Lebanon Baptist Church "through its deeds and ministries shows that the church really cares about the needs of all people"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Lebanon Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Lebanon Baptist Church as an expression of the General Assembly's best wishes for future success in its ministry.

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