HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

Commending Sixth Baptist Church.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 10, 2014

WHEREAS, Sixth Baptist Church of Richmond proudly celebrated 90 years of service to its members and the community in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Sixth Baptist Church began when 25 former members of Mount Carmel Baptist Church formed St. Luke's Mission under the leadership of the Reverend E. D. Caffee; the mission, located in St. Luke's Building, was later recognized as St. Luke's Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, in 1924, St. Luke's Baptist Church bought a building on Sixth Street and held its first revival; its name was changed to Sixth Baptist Church in 1942 at the suggestion of the Reverend Joseph Arrington; and

WHEREAS, Sixth Baptist Church grew to more than 350 members under the inspired leadership of the Reverend Joseph Arrington and paid off its mortgage in 1944; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, Sixth Baptist Church relocated to Idlewood Avenue, and the Reverend Joseph Arrington continued to serve the congregation until his retirement in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Sixth Baptist Church was ably served by the Reverend H. G. Knight, and the Reverend E. L. Fleming became pastor in 1969; and

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, the Reverend E. L. Fleming led Sixth Baptist Church through a period of growth, overseeing an expansion of ministries, a building fund effort, and the purchase of several properties; and

WHÊRÊAS, in 2001, the Reverend Dr. Yvonne Jones Bibbs became the fifth pastor of Sixth Baptist Church; she has continued to lead efforts to expand and renovate the building while encouraging members to give of their Time, Talent, Treasure, and Temple; and

WHEREAS, Sixth Baptist Church has grown in faith and numbers over the last 90 years while reaching out to serve community members and looks forward to continuing to fulfill its mission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Sixth Baptist Church hereby be commended on the occasion of its 90th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sixth Baptist Church as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for the church's dedication to serving its members and the community.