

## 2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 711

*Commending Mount Olive Baptist Church.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 2015

Agreed to by the Senate, February 5, 2015

WHEREAS, Mount Olive Baptist Church in Richmond has served the spiritual needs of its congregation and worked to transform and enhance the community for 140 years; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1875 by former members of First Baptist Church of South Richmond, Mount Olive Baptist Church held its first service under a brush arbor near the intersection of what is now Cofer Road and Jefferson Davis Highway; and

WHEREAS, under the Reverend Jordan Smith—the first recorded pastor—Mount Olive Baptist Church built a small structure for worship services and education programs in the same area; over the years, 18 pastors followed his example of strong leadership and commitment to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mount Olive Baptist Church purchased land for its current location on Bells Road in 1924, and a new building was completed in 1926; the current building was constructed in 1970 and has seen many renovations and enhancements over the years; and

WHEREAS, under the current leadership of the Reverend Dr. Michael A. Sanders, Mount Olive Baptist Church continues to foster and celebrate personal relationships with Jesus Christ, help and heal members of the congregation, and give a voice to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Mount Olive Baptist Church offers a wide variety of ministries to inspire local residents from all walks of life and carries out generous outreach programs to develop and strengthen the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Mount Olive Baptist Church for its outstanding spiritual leadership on the occasion of its 140th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Michael A. Sanders, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the church's dedication to its mission to serve and uplift members of the Richmond community.

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