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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 876

Offered February 19, 2015

Commending the Community Church of God in Christ.

Patrons—McClellan; Senator: McEachin

WHEREAS, the Community Church of God in Christ celebrates a long and fulfilling ministry in Richmond dating from its founding in the 1920s, and today looks confidently to the future as it plans extensive renovations to the historic church building; and

WHEREAS, for nearly a century, the members of the Community Church of God in Christ have spread their ministry throughout Richmond; the congregation, whose original name was The Church of God in Christ, first met in a storefront property on Jacquelyn Street; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Boone, whose full name is unknown, founded the church that today is known as the Community Church of God in Christ; a few years later, Elder R. N. Johnson, Sr., became pastor and led the group for several years; and

WHEREAS, as the congregation grew, the church moved several times and changed its name; it first relocated to South Harrison Street and was called the Harrison Street Church of God in Christ, and in 1941, the members moved into an existing church building on Nicholson Street; and

WHEREAS, the numbers of worshippers increased greatly after Bishop David C. Love, Sr., became head of the church, which was now called the State Temple Church of God in Christ; for several decades, the church was the state headquarters for all Churches of God in Christ in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, members of the renamed Love's Temple Church of God in Christ purchased a church building at 1801 Park Avenue in Richmond's historic Fan District; the church again changed its name to the Community Church of God in Christ, which is how it is known today; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David N. Wright, Sr., who became pastor of the Community Church of God in Christ during this time, has supervised a period of sustained growth; membership increased from about 74 people to several hundred people, with great promise for the years ahead; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the members of the Community Church of God in Christ embarked on an ambitious fundraising effort to renovate the group's historic building; plans include restoring the building to its original beauty and rebuilding a dome; and

WHEREAS, the enduring goal of the members of the Community Church of God in Christ is to lead people to worship and to be a beacon of light and love throughout the Richmond area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Community Church of God in Christ in Richmond for its many years of ministry and service and its plans to renovate the historic church building; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. David N. Wright, Sr., pastor of the Community Church of God in Christ, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the church's service and its great plans for the future.

INTRODUCED

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