

2015 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 546

Commending Zion Baptist Church.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, August 17, 2015

WHEREAS, for 150 years, Zion Baptist Church has provided opportunities for fellowship and worship, spiritual leadership, and generous outreach to the Portsmouth community; and

WHEREAS, one of the oldest African American churches in Portsmouth, Zion Baptist Church was founded in 1865 by 318 members of Court Street Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Zion Baptist Church completed numerous renovations and expansion projects over the years to better serve its growing congregation and ensure the success of its ministry programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Zion Baptist Church relocated to its current facility on Hatton Street, and in 2014, the church completed renovations on the education wing and added a new welcome center; and

WHEREAS, members of the Zion Baptist Church congregation have gone on to achieve success in a variety of careers and become respected leaders in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Zion Baptist Church has benefited from the able leadership of 10 pastors—E.G. Corpew, John M. Armistead, E.E. Smith, U.G. Wilson, H. Edward Whitaker, Walter L. Parrish II, G. Daniel Jones, Joseph L. Roberts, J. Michael Little, and Kelvin E. Turner; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Zion Baptist Church hereby be commended on the occasion of its 150th 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. Kelvin E. Turner, pastor of Zion Baptist Church, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the church's contributions to the Portsmouth community.

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