

## 2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 267

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled December 9, 2016

*Commending St. Paul's Church of God in Christ.*

Patron—Tyler

WHEREAS, for 100 years, St. Paul's Church of God in Christ has served as a center of spiritual, educational, and community life in Emporia; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul's Church of God in Christ traces its beginnings to the Sunday school held in an outside kitchen at the home of R.T. Person; the community gathering quickly became so popular there were not enough benches, so wooden shingles were used for additional seating; and

WHEREAS, the expanding congregation of St. Paul's Church of God in Christ created the need to build a church and R.T. Person donated land on Low Ground Road for a modest structure with four windows on each side and the church members worked to clear the land, which was nothing but rocks and trees; eventually more room was needed and an addition was built on the back of the original structure; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul's Church of God in Christ was a place where all were welcomed and many ministers, black and white, came to preach and spread the word of the Gospel, with Children's Day, Easter, and Christmas the most exciting times when the best recitations of any around could be heard; and

WHEREAS, in 1931 the R.R. Moton School was started in St. Paul's Church of God in Christ so that young children would not have to walk across the river to the South Emporia Training School, later known as the Greensville County Training School, which educated African American students; and

WHEREAS, many ministers have served St. Paul's Church of God in Christ over its long, illustrious history and it is now led by Pastor Brandon C. Allen, who seeks to promote the mission of serving God, loving people, and impacting the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That St. Paul's Church of God in Christ hereby be commended on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and providing a century of joyful praise, worship, and fellowship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Brandon C. Allen, pastor of St. Paul's Church of God in Christ, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the church's long history and service to the Emporia community.

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