

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

Commending the Reverend Elbert T. Knight.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 15, 2018

WHEREAS, in September of 2016, the Reverend Elbert T. Knight celebrated 35 years of providing spiritual leadership as pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Knight began his Mt. Carmel Baptist Church pastoral career in September of 1981, having previously served as pastor at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church in Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, since joining Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Reverend Knight has won the love and respect of his congregants for his kindness, conviction, and dedication; under his able leadership, the church has grown from around two dozen people to several hundred; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Knight has also overseen the church's physical growth, including the addition of 100 paved parking spaces with lighting, the purchase of nine parcels of land, the renovation and enlargement of the sanctuary and choir loft, and the addition of a new administrative wing that includes a fellowship hall, conference room, and offices; and

WHEREAS, during Reverend Knight's long and distinguished tenure, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church has expanded its spiritual mission and its community involvement through several new ministries, including the Mission and Benevolence Ministry, the Evangelism Ministry, and the Alfreda Knight Golden Age Ministry; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church has also hosted a drug treatment program that serves some 65 people a week and is used by courts and officials across the Tidewater region; and

WHEREAS, through his spiritual leadership, Reverend Knight has touched the lives of countless people and become a valued community leader in Portsmouth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Reverend Elbert T. Knight hereby be commended on his 35 years of exemplary service to Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and the residents of Portsmouth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Elbert T. Knight as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his achievements and best wishes for future success.

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