

## 2019 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

*Commending Clover Hill Baptist Church.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 4, 2019

WHEREAS, in 2019, Clover Hill Baptist Church celebrates 50 years of providing spiritual leadership, opportunities for joyful worship, and generous outreach to the members of the North Chesterfield community; and

WHEREAS, originally known as Gospel Crusade Baptist Church, Clover Hill Baptist Church traces its roots to the fall of 1968, when a group of believers met in a cabinet shop on Hull Street to form their own congregation; the Reverend Calvin T. Eaves was called as pastor, preaching his first sermon on November 24, 1968; and

WHEREAS, Clover Hill Baptist Church was formally organized with 80 charter members on February 9, 1969, and took its name from its location in the Clover Hill district of Chesterfield County; and

WHEREAS, shortly after its establishment, Clover Hill Baptist Church acquired a ten-acre tract of land on Courthouse Road and initiated a building fund under Harvey Tyndall; the church sold bonds to finance a new building, which was completed by general contractor Curtis Owens in 1972 and dedicated on Easter Sunday of that year; and

WHEREAS, Clover Hill Baptist Church sold additional bonds to fund a two-story educational building, which was completed in 1974, and later added a bus garage to better serve the growing congregation; the Reverend Dwight Norville was appointed director of the Bus Ministry and the Children's Church; and

WHEREAS, Clover Hill Baptist Church experienced significant growth in the 1970s, appointing its first associate pastor, the Reverend Barney Freasier, and music minister Wayne Raborn; the church continued to expand its ministries, including Sunday school programs and classes for the deaf, as well as the mentally and physically handicapped; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 1976, Clover Hill Baptist Church assumed ownership of Richmond Christian School on Newby's Bridge Road and subsequently purchased the Gill School property on Belmont Road in 1983; by 2002, Richmond Christian School had grown to an enrollment of more than 600 students; and

WHEREAS, Clover Hill Baptist Church has also benefited from the leadership of the Reverend Robert Gallagher as associate pastor and the Reverend Abe Simon, who joined the church in 1987 as director of the Golden Age Fellowship and later became an associate pastor; and

WHEREAS, Clover Hill Baptist Church will commemorate its milestone 50th anniversary with a banquet at Bishop Ireton Center on February 9, 2019, and a service on February 10, 2019, featuring presentations on the history of the church, as well as testimonies and special guests; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Clover Hill Baptist Church hereby be commended on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Mark Crockett, senior pastor of Clover Hill Baptist Church, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for its legacy of service to the residents of North Chesterfield.

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