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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 352

Offered March 3, 2022

Commending the Reverend Dr. Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr.

Patrons—Walker and Byron

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., senior pastor of First Baptist Church of South Lynchburg, who has provided uplifting spiritual counsel to his congregation for many years, retired on March 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, graduating from the historic Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lynchburg in 1962, Carl Hutcherson's subsequent educational pursuits led to a bachelor's degree from the former Hampton Institute, an associate degree in mortuary science from John Tyler Community College, a master of divinity degree from Duke University, and a doctor of ministry degree from Virginia University of Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson has greatly served others for many years as owner and operator of Carl B. Hutcherson Funeral Home, Inc., providing impeccable care and service while attending to the needs of countless families; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the development and success of young people, Carl Hutcherson served as an educator in the school systems of Campbell County and the City of Lynchburg and as an adjunct professor at the Virginia University of Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson made an outsized impact on his community through his service on the Lynchburg City Council, including as mayor from 2000 to 2006, and as president of the Lynchburg Branch of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson's active engagement with his community has included membership with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia Free and Accepted Masons, Inc.; Old Dominion Lodge #181 of the Elks; and the Revelers Club; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson has mentored fellow faith leaders as director of the doctoral program at Eastern Theological Seminary and as the author of *Intentional Evangelism*, published in 2013, as well as through several magazine features and lectures held across the country; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson cultivated his faith at Jackson Street United Methodist Church and Immanuel Christian Church, both of Lynchburg, and has guided several congregations, serving as pastor of the Bedford County Circuit of the United Methodist Church, as founding pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Lynchburg, as pastor of Christian education at Immanuel Christian Church, and ultimately as senior pastor of First Baptist Church of South Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, in his 44 years as a pastor, Carl Hutcherson provided his congregations with edifying and enlightening spiritual guidance and innumerable opportunities for community outreach, contributing immensely to their joy and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Carl Hutcherson will have more time to spend with his loving family in his retirement, including his children, Carla, Sherri, Delia, and Carl III, and his grandchildren, Imani, Mya, Hannah, Ryan, Ayanna, and Delaney; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Dr. Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., senior pastor of First Baptist Church of South Lynchburg, on the occasion of his retirement; 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. Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his impressive career and best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

INTRODUCED

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