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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 357

Offered February 20, 2023 Commending the Reverend Jack C. Stewart.

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Patron—Edmunds

WHEREAS, the Reverend Jack C. Stewart, senior pastor at Grace Southern Baptist Church in Virgilina, celebrated 40 years of leading the church's congregation in January 2023; and

WHEREAS, after hearing the call to preach and attending Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Jack Stewart accepted the opportunity to serve as pastor of what is now Grace Southern Baptist Church in 1983, graduating from the seminary a year later; and

WHEREAS, through Sunday services and a Wednesday night Bible study, Jack Stewart provides his congregation with edifying and uplifting spiritual counsel to guide them in their faith; and

WHEREAS, Jack Stewart has seen the congregation at Grace Southern Baptist Church grow and thrive over the years, nearly quadrupling its membership during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Jack Stewart has served the mission of Grace Southern Baptist Church by steering various renovation and construction projects at the church, updating the sanctuary and other facilities for the benefit of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, Jack Stewart has fostered numerous ministries and outreach programs at Grace Southern Baptist Church to enable members of the congregation to look deeper into their faith and to make meaningful contributions to their community; and

WHEREAS, Jack Stewart has given generously of his time in service to others, previously serving on the recreation committee for Halifax County, as chaplain for Halifax Christian School, and as parent-teacher organization president at the former Virgilina Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Jack Stewart is currently serving as chaplain for Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital and on his community's American Rescue Plan Act board, helping to make Halifax County a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Reverend Jack C. Stewart hereby be commended on the occasion of his 40th anniversary at Grace Southern Baptist Church; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Jack C. Stewart as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of service and best wishes in his future endeavors.