

2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 240

Commending Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 16, 2023

WHEREAS, since 1890, Oak Grove Baptist Church of Suffolk has provided its members with uplifting spiritual counsel and opportunities for charitable outreach in the community; and

WHEREAS, for nearly four decades, Oak Grove Baptist Church has been sagaciously and compassionately led by the Reverend Dr. Anthony Copeland, who became pastor of the church on January 2, 1984; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Copeland helped to establish Oak Grove Baptist Church's Each One, Reach One Ministries, which is rooted in the church's commitment to sharing a love and understanding of the Bible with others; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Copeland's "20/20 Vision" initiative, Oak Grove Baptist Church built a new, state-of-the-art sanctuary to adjoin the current church and aid in the fulfillment of the church's mission; and

WHEREAS, Oak Grove Baptist Church has also benefited greatly from the inspired leadership of its assistant pastor, Sylvia Copeland, who has supported myriad youth groups, women's ministries, conferences, and workshops on behalf of the church; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the congregation at Oak Grove Baptist Church has grown in faith and number and become an integral part of local community life in Suffolk, embodying the power of prayer and a wholehearted commitment to the teachings of the Bible; and

WHEREAS, Oak Grove Baptist Church has recently started to live stream one of its Sunday worship services on YouTube and Facebook, enabling greater numbers to join the members of the congregation as they honor and celebrate their faith in the Baptist tradition; and

WHEREAS, by cultivating joy and a greater sense of purpose in the community, Oak Grove Baptist Church has helped to make Suffolk a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Oak Grove Baptist Church hereby be commended for its years of service to its members and the Suffolk community; 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. Anthony Copeland, senior pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the church's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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