

2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 364

Commending Bishop Samuel L. Carruth.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 24, 2023

WHEREAS, for more than 55 years, Bishop Samuel L. Carruth, the head pastor of Holy Light Church of Deliverance in Portsmouth, has provided wise spiritual leadership and helped enhance the quality of life in the community through generous outreach; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Carruth spent his young adulthood in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he attended Benjamin Franklin High School and Temple University; he served his country as a member of the United States Army, and after his recovery from a traumatic event and an illness, he was inspired to answer the call to the ministry; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Carruth cofounded and served as assistant pastor of Deliverance Evangelistic Church in Philadelphia, during which time he earned his doctor of divinity degree; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Samuel Carruth relocated to Portsmouth and became the pastor of Holy Light Church of Deliverance; he helped the congregation grow from humble beginnings with only 13 members to one of the most dynamic church congregations in the city; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Carruth launched initiatives to bring a spirit of joy and hope to communities outside the church; he hosted community events in low-income housing neighborhoods, developed educational programs and a summer camp for young people, and created a telephone ministry to stay engaged with the homebound; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Carruth reaches audiences far and wide through a daily television broadcast, and he hosts one of the largest, longest-airing Christian radio ministries in the region; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Carruth has served as chaplain of the Portsmouth Police Department and offered his leadership and expertise to several local organizations and committees; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Bishop Samuel L. Carruth hereby be commended for his more than 55 years of service as a spiritual and community leader in Portsmouth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bishop Samuel L. Carruth as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his contributions to the Portsmouth community.

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