



State of Tennessee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 507

By Representative Evans

and

Senator Roberts

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the South Haven Baptist Church on the occasion of its Twenty-fifth Anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the South Haven Baptist Church comprise one such congregation, and they are celebrating the church's twenty-five years of service to the Lord and the community this year; and

WHEREAS, South Haven Baptist Church and Christian School, under the leadership of Dr. Frank Gagliano, was established in October 1986 with a group of 156 people who were remaining members of the former Tabernacle Baptist Church; heeding the Lord's call, and led by Pastor Gagliano and the deacons, they formed a new ministry in Springfield; and

WHEREAS, in the last twenty-five years, the church has expanded its campus and buildings exponentially; South Haven Baptist Ministries covers more than eighteen acres on the south side of Springfield with nearly 70,000 square feet in buildings, which include a 14,000-square-foot auditorium and Sunday school area, where the Spanish ministry meets, and a 53,000-square-foot school building for the daycare, kindergarten, elementary, and junior and senior high school and gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, the school building is transformed into an auditorium and Sunday school rooms each weekend to facilitate a membership of 3,300 with an average attendance of more than 2,000 each Sunday morning; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the 2,400-square-foot Hamilton & Smith Bus Building was erected to perform maintenance on the church's vehicles, and the church has plans underway to construct a new auditorium with additional Sunday school classrooms, office areas, and other useful space; and

WHEREAS, the current church ministries include fourteen bus routes; a mission in Rutherford, which holds Sunday morning and evening and Wednesday evening services; a worldwide missions program supporting over eighty missionaries and churches; Spanish ministries at the Springfield campus and at a location in Nashville; a Sudanese ministry in Nashville; adult, teen, children, and handbell choirs; a twenty-five piece orchestra; and an accredited Christian school, preschool, and daycare with certified, qualified teachers serving children from six weeks old through twelfth grade; and

WHEREAS, South Haven also established its own Bible Institute in 1998 for the purpose of training men and women to serve the Lord full-time and enhancing the spiritual service of its members; the Institute offers a certificate in Biblical Studies and a Bachelor of Theology degree; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, a Biblical Counseling ministry with certified counselors was opened to help those in the community with marriage and financial troubles and those addicted to drugs, alcohol, pornography, and other destructive behaviors; and

HJR 507

WHEREAS, for twenty-five years, the South Haven Baptist Church has stood on the rock-solid foundation of Christian belief, service, and love, serving as a bastion of faith and outreach to the people of Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the South Haven Baptist Church on the occasion of its Twenty-fifth Anniversary and offer our sincerest wishes for every continued success as an uplifting beacon of the Lord's good will.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: MAY 21, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 25th day of May 2011



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR