

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1433

By McCalmon

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Father Daniel Ebrahim and the congregation of St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations as they celebrate significant milestones in their communal life; and

WHEREAS, one such dynamic community of faith is St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church Tennessee, which recently celebrated the dedication of its new church building and campus in Franklin with a "Laying of the Foundation Stone" ceremony on April 9, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Coptic Orthodox Church stands as one of the oldest and most venerable institutions globally, its roots tracing back to the dawn of Christianity; founded by Saint Mark the Apostle, this ancient church took its initial steps in the first century; and

WHEREAS, through the centuries, the Coptic Church has remained unwavering in its mission to uphold and pass down the teachings of the Apostles; this commitment to preservation forms the bedrock of the church's identity as a community rooted in the timeless doctrines and worship patterns established by the Apostles themselves; and

WHEREAS, St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church seeks to serve its community by being Christ-centered in every action, service, activity, and event; by actively living faith within the church and within the community; by creating an environment for spiritual growth in prayer, the Holy Scripture, and the Orthodox faith; and by fostering love, acceptance, and support for all individuals through service to one another and the community; and

WHEREAS, Father Daniel Ebrahim is the priest for St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church; he was ordained as a priest on April 30, 2017, and has been serving within the Diocese of the Southern United States since his ordination; and

WHEREAS, St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church is truly one of the great religious institutions and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and nation, and the members of this exceptional congregation should be appropriately honored for their exemplary service to their fellow Christians and to the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize St. Barbara Coptic Orthodox Church Tennessee on the dedication of its new church building and campus in Franklin and extend to Father Daniel Ebrahim and this exceptional congregation our sincerest wishes for much continued success in performing God's work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.