

HOUSE RESOLUTION 177

By Love

A RESOLUTION to recognize Maury City Community Church of God in Christ on the occasion of its 114<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of this nation have been an integral part of our history as a people and have had an unparalleled impact on forming and maintaining a stable and just society; and

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

WHEREAS, one such dynamic and historic community of faith is Maury City Community Church of God in Christ, whose members are celebrating the church's 114<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, the church, which is predominantly African-American Christian, traces its roots to the late nineteenth century and is one of the largest Pentecostal denominations in the world, known for its vibrant worship, emphasis on spiritual gifts, and commitment to holiness and evangelism; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 1910, the trustees of the Church of God (as it was called at the time), Willis Koonce, C.W. Woods, R.S. Robertson, and H.R. Buck, bought half an acre of land from the Christian Church at Maury City for \$100; and

WHEREAS, the Maury City Community Church of God in Christ has benefited from the leadership of magnificent pastors throughout its history, including Elder R. Hart, Elder DeBerry, Elder R.R. Booker, Elder Earl Williams, Bishop A.B. McEwen, Elder J.B. Yancy, Elder Lee Allen

Spight, Elder Henry A. Spight, Elder L.D. Blalark, Elder Ewell Jelks, Jr., Elder Julius L. DeBerry, and current pastor, Elder Andrae Parham; and

WHEREAS, Maury City Community Church of God in Christ has stood on the rock-solid foundation of Christian belief, service, and love for 114 years, serving as a bastion of faith and outreach to the people of its community; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the faith, leadership, and strength of its members, the church has persevered and continues to grow; it is truly one of the great religious institutions and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and nation; and

WHEREAS, 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, that we join in the celebration of the 114<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Maury City Community Church of God in Christ, thank the good people of its congregation and their ministers for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success.

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