

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 95

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to recognize Cornerstone Baptist Church on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of our nation have been an integral part of our history as a people and have had an unparalleled impact in 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, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such dynamic community of faith is that of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lebanon, whose members will celebrate the church's twenty-fifth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Cornerstone Baptist Church held its first service on June 23, 1996, in a rented building in Lebanon; to continue and grow the congregation, a more suitable location was sought, and

WHEREAS, in April 1997, the founders, led by Brother Robin "Bob" Curtis, Sr., and his wife, Shelia, both of whom were pastors, purchased land, and in June of that same year, groundbreaking began on the construction of a new edifice; and

WHEREAS, with the building completed, the first church service therein was held on December 14, 1997; the church continued to grow and prosper as a testament to and an example of God's abiding love; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2016, Pastor David Daugherty became the new pastor of Cornerstone Baptist, along with his wife, Lynn; the couple took over leadership of the congregation when Brother Curtis fell ill, bringing to a close his more than two-decade tenure. He was called home to the Lord on January 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, from 2016 to 2017, fifty-three new members were added to the congregation; as the church continued to grow, three deacons were added to the flock: James Stephens, Floyd Christian, and Andrew Summers; and

WHEREAS, Pastors David and Lynn Daugherty continue to lead Cornerstone Baptist Church with integrity and passion, succeeding in their goal to win the lost to Jesus Christ and be a beacon of hope; and

WHEREAS, as the church celebrates twenty-five years of service, it continues to be a light in the community, and the devout members of the congregation have faithfully striven to carry out God's work in the world; and

WHEREAS, as a powerful tool in the service of the Kingdom of God, Cornerstone Baptist 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 the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Cornerstone Baptist Church, thank the good people of this congregation and their ministers for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness.

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.