

No. R-55. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the First Presbyterian Church of Barre on its 125th anniversary.

(S.C.R.4)

By Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Pollina,

Whereas, in approximately 1880, a significant number of Scottish immigrants arrived in Barre, and they aspired to establish their own church of the Presbyterian denomination, and

Whereas, at the direction of Elder John Gilchrist of the Presbyterian Church of South Boston, Massachusetts, the Reverend Charles K. Canfield of South Ryegate visited the Scottish community in Barre, and

Whereas, on Sunday, November 4, 1888, the Reverend Canfield conducted Barre's first Presbyterian service at the Barre Opera House, and

Whereas, on April 1, 1889, the First Presbyterian Church of Barre was established with 73 members, and Robert Kynoch and James Duncan were selected as the congregation's first Elders, and

Whereas, the first communion service was held on April 14, 1889, at the Park House, with the Reverend Wilmot Cummings presiding, and

Whereas, in 1891, the church society was incorporated as the First Presbyterian Church of Barre, and services continued to be held at interim sites, and

Whereas, on December 5, 1897, the First Presbyterian Church of Barre's own beautiful house of worship, located at the corner of Summer and South Seminary streets, was dedicated and, as expanded and modernized over the decades, remains its home in 2015, and

Whereas, during the past 125 years, the First Presbyterian Church of Barre has conducted an active ministry for congregants of all ages and has engaged in the denomination's mission programs both in the United States and internationally, and

Whereas, 2014 marked the First Presbyterian Church of Barre's 125th anniversary, and the celebratory events held to observe this historic occasion included the printing of special T-shirts, holding a commemorative service and big Scottish dinner on November 2, and the church's pastor, the Reverend Carl Hilton VanOsdall, delivering several sermons related to its history, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the First Presbyterian Church of Barre on its 125th anniversary, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Reverend Carl Hilton VanOsdall at the First Presbyterian Church of Barre.