

House Resolution No. 3647

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State religious organizations that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods through the excellence of their spiritual endeavors; and

Whereas, New Hope Baptist Church of Ash Grove, Missouri, was founded as New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in 1883 with charter members G.P. Jack, Mr. and Mrs. Arch Stogsdill, Mr. and Mrs. Billie Stogsdill, Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Qualls, Lucinda Cantrell, Lucinda Hicklin, Susan Morris, and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Watson; and

Whereas, on June 8, 2008, the current members and staff of New Hope Baptist Church celebrated the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the church's establishment; and

Whereas, the religious foundations of Lawrence County were marred by theological controversy and the Civil War prior to the organization of New Hope Baptist Church as part of the Missouri Baptist Convention; and

Whereas, New Hope Baptist Church was guided early in its history by preachers George Long, G.P. Jack, "Doc" Long, Tom Melton, Sam Jones, Sam Bingham, and others whose names have been lost to history; and

Whereas, members of New Hope Baptist Church have worshiped in a variety of facilities, including Roper School, a log structure, and the current building that was built in 1918 and has been expanded and renovated at several times during its years of use; and

Whereas, New Hope Baptist Church has developed and maintained an excellent reputation for its support of overseas missions work in China, the Philippines, and in other areas through the Southern Baptist Convention; and

Whereas, New Hope Baptist Church also is active locally through Bible studies, 4th of July Family Fun Nights, hotdog roasts in October, gag-gift Christmas parties, discipleship training, spiritual gifts studies, outreach classes, and other venues of service:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with New Hope Baptist Church and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt congratulations upon having a highly successful celebration recognizing the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the founding of their local church; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of New Hope Baptist Church of Ash Grove, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Don Ruzicka
 District No. 132

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3647, adopted July 21, 2008.

 Rod Jetton, Speaker