

House Resolution No. 4196

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take great pride in acknowledging a significant milestone in the history of a blessed religious institution that has come to play an important role in the lives of many Callaway County residents; and

Whereas, the congregation of the First Baptist Church in Fulton, Missouri, will commemorate the resplendent occasion of its One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary during the weekend of October 16-17, 2004; and

Whereas, festivities for the Sesquicentennial Celebration will include an open house, display of historical memorabilia, luncheon, and special evening activities; and

Whereas, the First Baptist Church was constituted as the United Baptist Church of Fulton on October 18, 1854, at the home of Sally Ann McCredie by fifteen charter members who included Mary Hardin, a future First Lady of the State of Missouri, and James Greene Smith, the first graduate of Westminster College; and

Whereas, the congregation of First Baptist Church dedicated its first new house of worship on East Fifth Street on August 9, 1857, which housed Fulton's first public school on the lower level of the two-story structure; and

Whereas, one of the oldest congregations in the City of Fulton, the First Baptist Church was instrumental in the inception of four Baptist congregations in Callaway County which include the Second Baptist Church (Calvary Baptist Church), Reform Baptist Church, Southside Baptist Church, and Guiding Light Baptist Church:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Pastor Stephen Sowder and to the entire congregation of the First Baptist Church upon this very special anniversary event; 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 the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Baptist Church in Fulton, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Danie Moore
 District No. 20

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4196, adopted September 30, 2004.

 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker