

House Resolution No. 4174

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State religious organizations which have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities; and

Whereas, Pea Ridge Mennonite Church in rural Palmyra will celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of its founding through a series of events on Saturday, August 13, and Sunday, August 14, 2005; and

Whereas, in the early 1900s at the request of a mother whose daughter lived in the underserved Pea Ridge area, Brother J.M. Krieder made the long journey by horse and buggy to begin what would become a monthly series of worship and education meetings at the school at Four Corners near Pea Ridge; and

Whereas, the early efforts by Brother Krieder bore fruit, and Bishop Daniel Kauffman of Versailles, Missouri, baptized twenty-three members of a study group, followed by the arrival of Brother J.R. Shank from Goshen College to care for the new congregation after his ordination; and

Whereas, on land donated by a convert, Joe Duff, and his family, a little white church was constructed by the end of 1905 and used until Sunday, December 25, 1932, when the structure caught fire and burned to the ground; and

Whereas, despite the previous loss of all but four of the founding families, the members and leaders of Pea Ridge Mennonite Church rebuilt their church to continue their popular work with Summer Bible Schools and the other outreach ministries of the congregation; and

Whereas, after consolidating with Palmyra Mennonite Church in 1955 and building a new church in 1957, Pea Ridge Mennonite Church remains a vibrant, active part of the region as it joyfully fulfills its role as a much-appreciated country church which successfully meets the needs of the surrounding agricultural area and beyond:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, stellar history associated with the spiritual work of Pea Ridge Mennonite Church and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for a highly successful One Hundredth Anniversary of their religious organization; 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 Pea Ridge Mennonite Church of Palmyra, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Rachel Bringer
District No. 6

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4174, adopted August 11, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker