

House Resolution No. 3140

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to recognize Show-Me State spiritual institutions that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church was founded in 1894 with fourteen charter members who held services in Black Oak School until a proper church building could be constructed; and

Whereas, the original church structure was destroyed in 1940 by a nighttime flue fire, so the current building was raised adjacent to Black Oak School where the church had its start; and

Whereas, the physical infrastructure of Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church has undergone many changes, including installation of restroom and kitchen facilities, the construction of a large fellowship hall, a remodeling of the auditorium, enlargement of the foyer, and the addition of a lighted sign; and

Whereas, in addition to three worship services each week, Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church sponsors a Ladies' Auxiliary, a youth group, biannual revivals, a monthly breakfast, Vacation Bible School, a homecoming celebration on the first Sunday in June, and playground equipment for the increasing numbers of children within the congregation; and

Whereas, Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church also offers bus service to bring members and visitors to its full schedule of events; and

Whereas, known as an "old-fashioned country church", Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church represents an unwavering example of Webster County's rural heritage; and

Whereas, led by the Reverend Jack Day for the past forty years, today's Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church attracts nearly one hundred people to Sunday morning services where they can enjoy spiritual growth and genuine fellowship:

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 Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church and to convey to its staff and congregation this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued success for many more years to come; 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 for presentation to Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church.

Offered by _____
Representative Michael L. Cunningham
District No. 145

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3140, adopted May 3, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker