

By: Senator M. Johnson

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO HONOR TERRY KIMBROW, PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS UPCOMING MAY 2025 RETIREMENT.

Subtitle

TO HONOR TERRY KIMBROW, PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS UPCOMING MAY 2025 RETIREMENT.

WHEREAS, Terry Kimbrow, who has served as President of Central Baptist College in Conway, Arkansas, since 2004, has announced that he plans to retire in May 2025; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow's announcement comes after serving as Central Baptist College's ninth president, and his decision to step down comes with a heartfelt message of gratitude and optimism for the college's future; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow said of his time as President of Central Baptist College, "I have been so blessed to serve as president for the past twenty years. I'm convinced it's time for someone to come in with a fresh vision and renewed heart for [Central Baptist College]"; and

WHEREAS, during his time as President of Central Baptist College, President Kimbrow has been a driving force behind the growth and success of the college as under his leadership the college has experience significant



achievements including the construction of the Ratliff Bell Tower in 2008, which symbolizes the college's mission to transform lives through education, integrating Christian faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow's visionary leadership at Central Baptist College has been instrumental in spearheading a comprehensive rebranding effort, attracting million-dollar gifts, multiple capital campaign fundraising efforts, and significantly increasing the college's endowment by over three hundred percent (300%); and

WHEREAS, in 2011, President Kimbrow led his most successful capital campaign at Central Baptist College, Vision 2020: A Miracle in the Making, and his dedication to fundraising realized its greatest triumph when a historic contribution of five million dollars (\$5,000,000), the largest single gift in the college's history, kicked off the campaign, richly enhancing the campaign's total dollars raised to over eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000); and

WHEREAS, under President Kimbrow's leadership and guidance, Central Baptist College has witnessed unprecedented growth and expansion, including the construction of the Watkins Academic Building in 2012, the Story Library in 2013, and Dickson Hall in 2014, and he was also instrumental in the renovation of Burgess Auditorium in 2015 and the establishment of the Mary Ned Foster Band Rehearsal Hall in 2018; and

WHEREAS, during his presidency, academic excellence at Central Baptist College has been a main priority for President Kimbrow, as witnessed by his successful leadership of the continuance of regional accreditation and the establishment of the Teacher Education program, which has helped significantly expand the college's bachelor's degree offerings to over forty (40) programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, President Kimbrow was able to secure a Title III Strengthening Institutions Grant for Central Baptist College, enabling the establishment of several science degree programs and the construction of the

Judy Gabbard Science Center; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow has also been instrumental in the growth of the Mustang Athletics program at Central Baptist College as during his presidency athletic teams at Central Baptist College have expanded from five (5) to sixteen (16) in the American Midwest Conference and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, and he is currently serving his third term as Chair of the American Midwest Conference AMC Council of Presidents; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow has also been active in his community, serving on multiple boards and committees including the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee, Arkansas' Independent Colleges and Universities, the Baptist Hospital Patient Safety Committee, the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce, the Conway Rotary Club, the Faulkner County Leadership Institute, Bank of America, and Haven House, as well as serving as Conway Police Department Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, during his career, President Kimbrow has also participated in the FBI Citizens Academy and the Faulkner County Leadership Institute, and he has received the Dan Nabholz Leadership Award and been designated the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce Business Executive of the Year, Central Baptist College Employee of the Year, and Central Baptist College Alumnus of the Year among many other honors and awards; and

WHEREAS, as President Kimbrow prepares to step down as President of Central Baptist College in May 2025, the Central Baptist College Board of Trustees expresses its deepest gratitude for his exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication, and profound impact on the college; and

WHEREAS, Central Baptist College Board of Trustees Chair Kirk Shelton said of President Kimbrow, "It is with sorrow that the [Central Baptist College] Board of Trustees heard the news of President Kimbrow's plans to retire in May 2025 . . . The college has been blessed with [his] solid, visionary leadership for twenty years. I believe I speak for the entire Board when I say we would like to have him for twenty more"; and

WHEREAS, President Kimbrow has been married to Tricia Kimbrow for forty-eight (48) years, and they share three (3) children and nine (9) grandchildren,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate honor Terry Kimbrow, President of Central Baptist College, upon the occasion of his upcoming May 2025 retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Terry Kimbrow by the Secretary of the Senate.