

House Resolution 59

By: Representatives Maxwell of the 27th, Richardson of the 26th and Heath of the 18th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the loss of the Dallas First Baptist Church; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, On Thursday, December 26, 2002, a devastating fire destroyed the magnificent
3 sanctuary of the historic First Baptist Church in Dallas, Georgia, and created an
4 overwhelming loss for the congregation and the community as a whole; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Dallas was established in 1854 with 29 members and
6 throughout its long history there have been three church buildings, the latest built in 1905
7 was adorned with stained glass windows placed in memory or honor of loved ones; and
- 8 WHEREAS, many fine ministers served this church, beginning with James Reeves and more
9 recently included Rev. Clarence G. Cole in 1968 and Rev. Alton Wilson since 1984; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Dallas was a special part of so many lives in this
11 community where children first experienced Vacation Bible School, couples joined in holy
12 matrimony, and families were comforted as they mourned the death of loved ones; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the community of Dallas and the devoted members of this great church will
14 forever remember this monumental loss and find solace in the memories and faith it offered.
- 15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
16 the members of this body express their regret at the tragic destruction of the Dallas First
17 Baptist Church and the overwhelming loss to the citizens of this whole community.
- 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
19 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Rev. Alton Wilson of
20 the Dallas First Baptist Church.