

Senate Resolution 43

By: Senator Dean of the 31st

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing regret at the loss of the Dallas First Baptist Church sanctuary; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Georgia, was established in 1854 with 29  
4 members; and

5 WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Dallas has been a special part of so many lives in  
6 this community where children first experienced Vacation Bible School, couples joined in  
7 holy matrimony, and families were comforted as they mourned the death of loved ones; and

8 WHEREAS, many fine ministers served this church, beginning with James Reeves and more  
9 recently Rev. Clarence G. Cole in 1968 and Rev. Alton Wilson since 1984; and

10 WHEREAS, throughout its long history there have been three church buildings, and the  
11 latest, built in 1905, was adorned with stained glass windows placed in memory or honor of  
12 loved ones; and

13 WHEREAS, on Thursday, December 26, 2002, a devastating fire destroyed the magnificent  
14 sanctuary of the historic First Baptist Church in Dallas and created an overwhelming loss for  
15 the congregation and the community as a whole; and

16 WHEREAS, the community of Dallas and the devoted members of this great church will  
17 forever remember this monumental loss and find solace in the memories and faith it offered.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
19 express their regret at the tragic destruction of the Dallas First Baptist Church sanctuary and  
20 the overwhelming loss to the citizens of this whole community.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Rev. Alton Wilson of the Dallas First
- 3 Baptist Church.