

## House Resolution 723

By: Representatives Murphy of the 97<sup>th</sup>, Howard of the 98<sup>th</sup>, and Anderson of the 100<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Antioch Missionary Baptist  
2 Church; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since April 10, 1878, the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church has stood in  
4 Richmond County as a beacon of hope and a place of refuge; and

5 WHEREAS, for five generations, the congregational family has reached out and nurtured  
6 thousands of persons who have been counted among the least, the last, and the lost; and

7 WHEREAS, the congregation's 125th anniversary gives rise to a milestone occasion to  
8 celebrate its distinguished history and also to renew its commitment to a remarkable record  
9 of Christian service that has made Antioch Missionary Baptist Church one of God's best  
10 churches; and

11 WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings and through a series of unfortunate events, Antioch  
12 Missionary Baptist Church has evolved into a Richmond County landmark known for its  
13 commitment to spiritual growth; and

14 WHEREAS, during its long history, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church has been blessed  
15 with great leaders and ministers who have dedicated themselves to an abiding vision of the  
16 church's preeminent role in the world; and

17 WHEREAS, the Reverend Kenneth B. Martin has been the pastor since 1986, and, under his  
18 dynamic and innovative leadership, many new programs of Christian education and  
19 evangelism have been developed, including educational workshops, training sessions, and  
20 fellowship activities, in response to the religious, economic, educational, political, health,  
21 and recreational needs of the congregation and the community at large; and

1 WHEREAS, as the church's membership has grown so have the many ways in which it is  
2 able to reach out to the community in providing spiritual guidance, comfort, and hope in  
3 fulfillment of its mission, and there are presently more than 24 active ministries supported  
4 by the members.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
6 the members of this body congratulate the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church on the  
7 occasion of its 125th anniversary and convey their appreciation to the Reverend Kenneth B.  
8 Martin and the entire congregation for their invaluable contributions and service to the  
9 community and the entire State of Georgia.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
11 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Kenneth B.  
12 Martin.