

## House Resolution 813

By: Representatives Mangham of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Watson of the 91<sup>st</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, and Mosby of the 90<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Pastor James C. Ward; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Pastor James C. Ward, the visionary leader of Antioch-Lithonia Missionary  
3 Baptist Church, was born in Abbeville, Alabama, one of seven children born to Willie and  
4 Viola Ward; and
- 5 WHEREAS, since March of 1995, Pastor Ward has blessed the distinguished congregation  
6 of historic Antioch-Lithonia Missionary Baptist Church with his compassionate and inspiring  
7 spiritual guidance; and
- 8 WHEREAS, during his time with Antioch-Lithonia Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor Ward  
9 has led this vibrant faith community through many exciting developments, including the  
10 building of a new facility that the congregation began to occupy in 2004 and the creation of  
11 several new ministries, including a personal support ministry and a concert band; and
- 12 WHEREAS, outside of his exemplary service to the church, Pastor Ward's other outstanding  
13 accomplishments include founding the Lithonia-East DeKalb Optimist Club, serving as  
14 charter president of the board of directors for the East DeKalb Boys & Girls Club, graduating  
15 from Leadership DeKalb in 2003, and performing with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir in  
16 October, 2004; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Pastor Ward was recognized in 1999 by President Clinton for his dedicated  
18 community service, invited to the White House in 2001, recognized by the Secretary of the  
19 State of Georgia as an Outstanding Georgia Citizen and a Goodwill Ambassador from  
20 Georgia, and selected during the 2005 Atlanta Gospel Choice Awards as one of ten  
21 metropolitan Atlanta area pastors to receive the "Chosen" Award; and

1 WHEREAS, he has lived a life dedicated to Christian education, and community and  
2 spiritual service, exemplifying extraordinary Christian leadership and embodying his  
3 personal commitment to his fellow man; and

4 WHEREAS, his life of service is a genuine reflection of his faith and love for the Lord and  
5 considering the many extraordinary contributions Pastor Ward has made to Georgia, it is  
6 abundantly fitting and proper for this body to appropriately recognize this exceptional  
7 religious leader and his venerable church.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
9 the members of this body recognize the great spiritual leader, Pastor James C. Ward, and  
10 commend him for many years of invaluable service and contributions.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
12 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Pastor James C. Ward.