

Senate Resolution 974

By: Senator Rogers of the 21st

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Bill Ratliff; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, *The TowneLaker* magazine each month recognizes a local person who  
3 exemplifies the qualities of a pathfinder, someone that is leading the way and trying to make  
4 the community the best it can be; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Ratliff was recognized by *The TowneLaker* magazine as Pathfinder of the  
6 Month for March, 2007; and

7 WHEREAS, Bill grew up in a Presbyterian household, graduated from the University of  
8 Maryland, and after a prayer session with his pastor, realized his calling was to minister, and  
9 he received his master's in divinity from the Southern Seminary; and

10 WHEREAS, his dream of creating a nondenominational church began in seminary school  
11 and became a reality in 1999 with ten church members and has now grown to more than 200  
12 members; and

13 WHEREAS, Bill has held tightly to the importance of giving back to his community and his  
14 spiritual and community-minded vision enabled him to start and grow Towne Lake  
15 Community Church; and

16 WHEREAS, he is well known for his efforts to help people learn to help themselves, making  
17 mission trips worldwide and trying to make some of the worst places in the world a little  
18 better; and

19 WHEREAS, Bill's philosophy on his church as a place for people to gather, grow, and  
20 minister is summed up in his insightful words that "I always wanted to see people be able to  
21 do the things they loved to do."

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
2 recognize and commend Bill Ratliff on being recognized by *The TowneLaker* magazine as  
3 Pathfinder of the Month for March, 2007, and express to him their congratulations and  
4 appreciation for his selfless contributions to his community and this state.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
6 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Bill Ratliff.