

## House Resolution 1567

By: Representatives Smyre of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Hugley of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Buckner of the 130<sup>th</sup>, and Smith of the 131<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Joseph Roberson as the recipient of the 2008  
2 Servant Award; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Joseph Roberson will receive the 2008 Servant Award for his  
4 instrumental work in establishing the South Columbus Children's Center; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1999, Reverend Roberson had a vision for a children's center and acted upon  
6 it, seeing the zoning for the center approved in November, 1999, the certificate of occupancy  
7 issued in August, 2002, and the South Columbus Children's Center opened its doors June,  
8 2003; and

9 WHEREAS, Reverend Roberson has been the senior pastor of South Columbus United  
10 Methodist Church for 14 years; and

11 WHEREAS, he and his wife, Beverly, have been married for 29 years and have three  
12 wonderful children, Angela, Martin, and Joseph; and

13 WHEREAS, since he became pastor, the church has gained 750 new members and recently  
14 began a Hispanic ministry; and

15 WHEREAS, he ministers through the highly respected and popular radio show, "Getting on  
16 Top of Life," on Sunday mornings, and he is a writer and publisher in the South Georgia  
17 Conference's *Historical Highlights* and various periodicals; and

18 WHEREAS, he is very active in the community, as evidenced by his service as a member of  
19 the Muscogee County School Board, 2004-2008; a South Georgia General Conference  
20 delegate, 2008; vice president of the conference board of ordained ministry; member of the  
21 conference board of trustees; president of the Black Methodist for Church Renewal within  
22 the South Georgia Conference; member of the board of directors for Strengthening the Black

1 Church for the 21st Century; and former executive director of the National Black Methodist  
2 for Church Renewal in Dayton, Ohio; and

3 WHEREAS, in addition to being a minister, he is a registered respiratory therapist; and

4 WHEREAS, he has a Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia State University in  
5 respiratory therapy; attended the Gupton Jones College of Mortuary Science; has a Master  
6 of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center at Gammon Seminary in  
7 Atlanta, Georgia; and a specialist degree in pastoral counseling from the Pastoral Institute  
8 in Columbus, Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, his motto in life is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who  
10 strengthens me."

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
12 the members of this body commend Reverend Joseph Roberson for being the recipient of the  
13 Servant Award and recognize him for his outstanding leadership and service to his  
14 community and this state.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Joseph Roberson.