

House Resolution 1722

By: Representative Kaiser of the 59th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Tabernacle Baptist Church; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Tabernacle Baptist Church originated in a store on Houston Street on May 10,
3 1917, under the pastorate of Dr. C.H. Young, and within six months, the church relocated to
4 a building on the corner of Bell and Gilmer Streets; and

5 WHEREAS, Tabernacle Baptist Church grew at a steady pace, but in 1937, the church was
6 destroyed by fire, and Dr. J.J. Minor, the church's pastor, opened the doors of his home for
7 regular church services; and

8 WHEREAS, through Dr. Minor's undying faith and dedication, the church learned the
9 meaning of Christian commitment: to rejoice in despair, be patient in tribulation, and hope
10 with constant prayer; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1939, the first unit of the church was rebuilt; a corner lot was acquired at
12 Ellis and Hilliard Streets; the new church was completed; and on the fifth Sunday in March,
13 1940, the first worship service was held; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. E.H. Dorsey of Brooklyn, New York, became the pastor in July, 1955, and
15 his leadership had a great impact on the church and the community; to this day, the harvest
16 of his labor is still present; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1960, the present edifice at 475 Boulevard was purchased; the Happy Time
18 Day Care was organized; and the church purchased a house on Rankin Street, a parking lot,
19 rolling stock, and an apartment complex at Parkway Drive; and Operation Bread Basket, a
20 program to feed the hungry, was born; and

21 WHEREAS, on October 6, 1977, Dr. Quincy Lavell Carswell became pastor, and under his
22 leadership, numerous physical renovations, as well as structural reorganization, were

1 established, including modern percussion instruments, an advanced public address system,
2 a media ministry with broadcasts and telecasts, community outreach programs, educational
3 and recreational programs, and the purchase of property on Rankin Place; and

4 WHEREAS, on April 3, 1994, Reverend Dennis A. Meredith of Toledo, Ohio, was presented
5 to Tabernacle, and he has proved himself to be an accomplished, well respected, and
6 community focused minister and leader; and

7 WHEREAS, Reverend Meredith has ministered for over 30 years at Tabernacle Baptist
8 Church using his many gifts to give glory to God, to preach and sing in communities across
9 America and abroad, and to win souls for Jesus Christ, and under his leadership, the church
10 has experienced unprecedented growth in membership, assets, and finances; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Meredith's outreach ministry led to the founding of Beacon of Hope
12 in 1996 which consists of programs for early childhood education, school age education,
13 family support, and adult education, job training, and employment programs; and

14 WHEREAS, Reverend Meredith is the loving husband of Lydia Mitcham Meredith, and the
15 devoted father of Dennis II "Taylor," Micah, and Eddie Meredith.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the members of this body join together in recognizing Tabernacle Baptist Church for its
18 contributions to the community and the state.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
20 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Dennis A.
21 Meredith.