House Resolution 1721

By: Representatives Dooley of the 38th, Ralston of the 7th, Porter of the 143rd, Morgan of the 39th, Abrams of the 84th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., on the occasion of his 32nd
- 2 pastoral anniversary with Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church; and for other purposes.
- WHEREAS, Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., has demonstrated his commitment to teaching
 the Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
- 5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a native of Macon, Georgia, Reverend Lockhart pastored at two churches in
- 7 Middle Georgia for five years before the Lord called him to Atlanta to lead the congregation
- 8 of Faith Tabernacle in Decatur; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he was asked to serve as pastor at Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
- 10 in 1977 and over the last four decades he has helped grow the church to 1,800 members with
- 11 two Sunday services, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a
- 12 spiritual leader and place for fellowship; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Reverend Lockhart has fostered the mission and vision of Pleasant Grove
- 14 Missionary Baptist Church and amazingly has licensed nearly 60 ministers to preach and
- 15 teach the Word of God; and
- 16 WHEREAS, under his divine leadership, Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church has
- 17 expanded its ministries program from four to 39 ministries, with plans to establish a day care,
- 18 life center, and chapel; and
- 19 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the 20 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or 21 humanitarian, Reverend Lockhart serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

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- 22 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Reverend Lockhart is a source of
- 23 strength and direction for persons in all walks of life and from all economic strata; and
- 24 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
- of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works renderedon behalf of persons in need.
- 27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 28 the members of this body congratulate Reverend Benjamin Lockhart, Jr., on the wonderful
- 29 occasion of his 32nd pastoral anniversary with Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
- 30 and extend best wishes for many more years of successful fellowship and leadership.
- 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 32 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Benjamin
- 33 Lockhart, Jr.