

## House Resolution 697

By: Representatives Yates of the 73<sup>rd</sup> and Knight of the 126<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on December 6, 1961, a representative group of Baptist pastors and lay leaders  
4 met at Tremont Temple Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia, to evaluate the total Christian  
5 program of the state convention; and

6 WHEREAS, the group assumed the name The Crusaders for Christian Democracy in the  
7 State of Georgia and was first led by Reverend Dr. Emory R. Searcy of Atlanta, with  
8 Reverend O. H. Stinson of Griffin serving as chairman; and

9 WHEREAS, after careful evaluation, the brethren were of the opinion that the only  
10 alternative was a new trust in a new era of Georgia, and the name New Era Missionary  
11 Baptist Convention of Georgia was suggested by Reverend E.B. Paschal of Macon; and

12 WHEREAS, New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia answered the challenge for  
13 instituting a contemporary focus on ministry, with its foundation and roots grounded in  
14 Bible-centered teachings; and

15 WHEREAS, the first regular session of the convention was held with the churches in Atlanta  
16 in November 1962 at Second Mount Zion Baptist Church, with 78 churches represented, and  
17 included a guest of national recognition, Reverend Dr. T.M. Chambers, President of the  
18 Progressive National Baptist Convention; and

19 WHEREAS, today New Era Convention is composed of more than 100 churches and  
20 associations from across the State of Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the convention owns and operates the New Era Baptist Convention Center  
22 located in Griffin, nearly 100 acres of natural beauty and hospitality where worship,  
23 fellowship, and recreation take place; and

24 WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Cleopatrik Lacy of Griffin's Historic Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
25 is the former president of New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, serving from  
26 2007-2010; and

27 WHEREAS, 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of New Era Missionary Baptist Convention  
28 of Georgia, with events and gatherings planned throughout the year in celebration of 50 years  
29 of kingdom building; and

30 WHEREAS, the first session of the 50th anniversary celebration will take place at Mt. Zion  
31 Baptist Church in Griffin, the birthplace of the Rites of Passage Program, an after-school  
32 program for kindergarten through fifth grade under the umbrella of the Zion Educational  
33 Programs; and

34 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message  
35 of peace and love be recognized and commended.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
37 the members of this body congratulate New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia  
38 on the grand occasion of its 50th anniversary.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to New Era Missionary Baptist  
41 Convention of Georgia.