

House Resolution 1765

By: Representatives Nimmer of the 178th, Lane of the 167th, and Dutton of the 166th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Historic Bennett Union Missionary Baptist Church; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Historic Bennett Union Missionary Baptist Church was founded in April of
4 1861 by a group of 11 former slaves, including Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Bennett; and

5 WHEREAS, worship services were held under a bush arbor until January of 1870 when the
6 Second Street property was purchased and a wooden structure was built; and

7 WHEREAS, the church's first pastor, Reverend W.F. Quarterman, was called in 1872 and
8 was responsible for laying the foundation from which this church has grown over the past
9 151 years; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1940, the wooden structure was bricked and later enlarged with Sunday
11 school classrooms, a kitchen and dining area, an office, restrooms, and storage areas; and

12 WHEREAS, a groundbreaking ceremony for the present sanctuary was held in April of 1983,
13 and the structure was dedicated at its completion in 1984; and

14 WHEREAS, another groundbreaking was held in April of 2011 for a new fellowship hall
15 which, in addition to the enlarged structure, also includes an auditorium and dining facilities;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, a dedication celebration will be held on March 31, 2012, for the new edifice and
18 the unveiling of the historical marker and cornerstone which will stand as tribute to the
19 church's founders and foreparents; and

20 WHEREAS, Historic Bennett Union Missionary Baptist Church holds the distinction of
21 being the oldest church in Wayne County, and it is abundantly fitting that this enduring

22 example of God's message of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for its
23 innumerable good works rendered on behalf of persons in need.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body recognize the rich history of Historic Bennett Union Missionary
26 Baptist Church, commend its 151 years of dedicated service to the Lord and community, and
27 extend their warmest best wishes for its continued growth and success.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Historic Bennett Union
30 Missionary Baptist Church.