

House Resolution 1801

By: Representative Waites of the 60<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Bishop O.C. Allen III; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Bishop O.C. Allen III is the founder and senior pastor of The Vision Church of  
3 Atlanta; and

4 WHEREAS, he is the CEO of The Vision Community Foundation Inc., an organization  
5 designed to provide accessible social services for underserved populations; and

6 WHEREAS, after over 20 years of preaching and ministry, Bishop Allen founded The Vision  
7 Church, which held its inception in 2004 and within the 5½ years grew from only 12  
8 committed people to more than 3,000 members and 50 active ministries, including children,  
9 youth and young adult ministries, counseling services, community food and clothing bank,  
10 and senior ministries; and

11 WHEREAS, an outreach ministry of The Vision Church, the Bread of Life Ministry feeds  
12 over 12,000 individuals annually in downtown Atlanta; and

13 WHEREAS, he is the Presiding Bishop of the United Progressive Pentecostal Church  
14 Fellowship, a fellowship of ministries and leaders created to nurture and support visionary  
15 leadership; and

16 WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Morehouse College, Morgan State University where he  
17 studied philosophy and religion and is currently studying at Harvard University where he is  
18 pursuing degrees in organizational behavior and human resources in conjunction with  
19 religion; and

20 WHEREAS, an active member in the community, Bishop Allen works with numerous  
21 national, civic, and social organizations, including the Atlanta branch of the NAACP,  
22 Operation Rainbow Push Coalition, People for the American Way, Regional Council of

23 Churches of Atlanta, Inc., the Center for American Progress, Concerned Black Clergy of  
24 Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc., the National Black Justice Coalition, the Human Rights  
25 Campaign, United for Peace and Justice, the Coalition on Human Needs, and the Equality  
26 Forum; and

27 WHEREAS, Bishop Allen is a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta and  
28 currently resides in Atlanta with his life partner, Rashad Burgess; and

29 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Bishop Allen is a source of  
30 strength and direction for persons in all walks of life and from all economic strata; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message  
32 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered  
33 on behalf of persons in need.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
35 the members of this body commend Bishop O.C. Allen III on his years of dedicated service  
36 to the community and his congregation.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Bishop O.C. Allen III.