

House Resolution 1851

By: Representatives Holt of the 112th and Williams of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Pastor W.J. Reid on the occasion of his retirement; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Pastor W.J. Reid was born on July 30, 1936, in Eatonton, Georgia, a beloved
4 son of the late Deacon Edmond and Eva Leola Reid; and

5 WHEREAS, he accepted his call to ministry at the age of 19, preaching regularly in the
6 woods around his home, held his initial sermon at the Jefferson Baptist Church in May of
7 1957 under Pastor J.M. Miller, and was licensed to preach by Pastor Miller on January 4,
8 1958; and

9 WHEREAS, he conducted his first revival at Pinkerton Grove Baptist Church in August of
10 1959 and was ordained at Jefferson Baptist Church on December 4, 1960; and

11 WHEREAS, Pastor Reid served multiple congregations at once, including Free Gift Baptist
12 Church from 1960 to 1991, Plainview Baptist Church from 1962 to 1991, Barrow Grove
13 Baptist Church from 1964 to 1991, and Springfield Missionary Baptist Church from 1967
14 to the present; and

15 WHEREAS, he was employed at Sears Roebuck in Atlanta in 1965, where he worked for 24
16 years; and

17 WHEREAS, he is the past Moderator of the First Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association and
18 currently President of the Morgan County Ministers Union and of the Sunshine Club of
19 Dinah Pace Community and Co-Chairperson of the Religious Department of the Morgan
20 County Branch NAACP; and

21 WHEREAS, Pastor Reid is a member of the Prince Hall Masons, the Morgan County
22 Deacon's Co-op, Advisory Board of the Newton County Sheriff, Board of Directors of the

23 Morgan County African American Museum, Putnam County Brothers and Sisters
24 Benevolence Lodge, Morgan County GCMBA #37, and Trustee Board of the Baptist Union
25 Institute, and active with the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia; and

26 WHEREAS, a legacy of Pastor Reid is his passion for developing youth spirituality; and

27 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his high school sweetheart, Martha Julia
28 Butts, in 1955, and together they are blessed with four remarkable children, Minister Ken
29 Reid, James Reid, Minister Lewis Reid, and attorney Gail Reid, and four wonderful
30 grandchildren, Rachel, Chasiti, Morgan, and Matthew Reid; and

31 WHEREAS, Pastor Reid is a humble servant whose sincere love for God is evident in his
32 more than half a century of service and sacrifice to all people, friends and foes alike, who are
33 blessed by his personal mantra: "It's just nice to be nice"; 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 congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
36 on behalf of persons in need.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
38 the members of this body commend Pastor W.J. Reid for his 55 years of service to the Lord,
39 the congregation, and his community and congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his
40 retirement.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Pastor W.J. Reid.