

## House Resolution 89EX

By: Representatives Hugley of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Smyre of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Buckner of the 130<sup>th</sup>, and Smith of the 131<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Nazareth Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia, on its 75th anniversary;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1936, eighteen servants of God met at the home of the late Reverend W. B.  
4 Biggins with meekness of heart and in song and prayer and organized and named the church  
5 on the corner of 19th Street and 9th Avenue "Nazareth" on March 25, 1936; and

6 WHEREAS, Reverend C. C. Russell was called as pastor on April 24, 1942, and under his  
7 leadership, the mission work was expanded, a Senior and Young Adult Choir were enlarged,  
8 new pews were bought, and a bell tower was erected; and

9 WHEREAS, Reverend Robert L. Holston was called as pastor of Nazareth in February, 1967,  
10 and has proven himself to be one of God's chosen people; within a few months after his  
11 calling, the mortgage was burned and the church grew spiritually, numerically, and  
12 financially; and

13 WHEREAS, recognizing the need for the church's expanding role in the community, the  
14 sanctuary was expanded in 1976 to include educational facilities valued at over \$125,000,  
15 and since that time, office equipment, air conditioning, an organ, a piano, and the  
16 communication system were purchased and the Youth Department, Brotherhood, Matrons,  
17 Young Adult and Early Morning Choir, the Male Chorus, Sunbeam Choir, Church-wide  
18 bible study class, and an efficient administrative staff were organized; and

19 WHEREAS, on September 17, 1995, the church fellowship hall was dedicated to the late  
20 Reverend W. B. Biggins and the late Reverend C. C. Russell and was named the  
21 "Biggins/Russell Fellowship Hall"; and

22 WHEREAS, on December 31, 2006, Pastor Robert L. Holston retired after almost 40 years  
23 of service and was given the honor of Pastor Emeritus; on January 1, 2007, Dr. Harry L.

24 McCall became the interim pastor and served until the church called Reverend Vincent L.  
25 Wilson, Sr., as pastor; and in May of 2009, one of Nazareth's former sons, Reverend Brandon  
26 Isome, was appointed as Presiding Pastor until he was selected as the fifth pastor of Nazareth  
27 Baptist Church; and

28 WHEREAS, the congregation joins together to pray that the Lord will continue to guide  
29 them as they "Let God's Ways Become Our Ways Through Faith, Hope, and Love."

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body commend the Nazareth Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia, on  
32 its 75th anniversary and wish its members continued success in serving God and the  
33 community.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Nazareth Baptist Church of  
36 Columbus, Georgia.