

## House Resolution 173

By: Representatives Brooks of the 55<sup>th</sup> and Dukes of the 154<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Congratulating Bishop William "Bill" C. Harris on his 70th birthday; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Bishop William "Bill" C. Harris has long been recognized by the citizens of this  
3 state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to  
4 the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Bishop Harris was born in 1943 in Albany, Georgia, where he received his  
6 education; and
- 7 WHEREAS, a veteran of the United States Army, Bishop Harris devoted innumerable hours  
8 of his time to facilitating liberty and equality within his country as he was also a freedom  
9 singer for justice and a field worker for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and  
10 the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Bishop Harris worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other  
12 pioneers of the Civil Rights Movement to put an end to African American oppression; and
- 13 WHEREAS, he co-founded the Veterans Civil Rights Movement Organization SCLC  
14 affiliated chapter, and in 1998, he was honored for his contributions to ending suffering for  
15 African Americans in the New Albany Civil Rights Museum in Albany, Georgia; and
- 16 WHEREAS, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Bishop Harris was a recording artist with  
17 Emory and The Dynamics under Peachtree Record label, and during his career, he performed  
18 with artists such as Jerry Butler, Jackie Wilson, Curtis Mayfield and the Impressions, David  
19 Ruffin, and Mitty Collier; and
- 20 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Bishop Harris was called into the ministry by  
21 the Lord in 1977 and served as Dean of Ministers of the Northern Diocese for nine years  
22 before he was appointed State Evangelist for the Northern Diocese Churches of Our Lord

23 Jesus Christ and Chaplain for the Regional 7 District of Alabama and Georgia for the  
24 Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.; and

25 WHEREAS, he is certified by the State of Georgia as a parole advocate and is a current  
26 member of the Fulton County Sheriff's Chaplaincy Program; and

27 WHEREAS, Bishop Harris is united in love and marriage to Mrs. Brenda U. Harris and is  
28 blessed with four beautiful children, eight remarkable grandchildren, and five cherished  
29 great-grandchildren; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
31 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized as he celebrates his 70th  
32 birthday.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body congratulate Bishop William "Bill" C. Harris on the grand occasion  
35 of his 70th birthday and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for continued health and  
36 happiness.

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 William "Bill" C.  
39 Harris.