

Senate Resolution 207

By: Senators Henson of the 41st, Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd, Butler of the 55th, Tate of the 38th, Jones of the 10th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Dr. Stafford J. Wicker; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Stafford J. Wicker serves as pastor of Antioch African Methodist
3 Episcopal Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Antioch A.M.E. Church was founded in 1868 and was the first African
5 American church in Decatur, Georgia; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Antioch A.M.E. Church was incorporated in October, 1993, under the
7 leadership of Reverend Wicker, whose assignment began on October 25, 1992; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Reverend Wicker's teaching and preaching modules are developed in concert
9 with the church's theme of "Just One More for Christ," and through Antioch's outreach
10 efforts, they are poised to minister to the community with purpose and conviction; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Reverend Wicker has led the church in creating opportunities to touch the lives
12 of seniors in the area such as the Antioch Manor Estates, an independent living facility that
13 provides quality, affordable living for seniors age 55 and older; and
- 14 WHEREAS, on September 24, 1995, the congregation moved from its founding place in
15 Decatur to Stone Mountain under Reverend Wicker's leadership; the relocation was one of
16 the largest acquisitions among A.M.E. churches in the southeastern United States as the new
17 15,000 square foot facility sits on eight acres of land, making Anioch A.M.E. Church one of
18 the largest landowners in Stone Mountain; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Antioch A.M.E. Church began a spiritual renewal through high praise worship
20 and positive preaching by Reverend Wicker; and

21 WHEREAS, the church is enriched by Bible studies, prayer meetings, workshop seminars,
22 membership training, leadership workshops and retreats, revivals, and other teaching vehicles
23 designed to empower the laity of the church and encourage the community to come and
24 worship; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that Reverend Dr. Stafford J. Wicker be
26 commended for the innumerable hours he has spent helping to restore and refine the Antioch
27 African Methodist Episcopal Church.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 join in recognizing the selfless dedication of Reverend Dr. Stafford J. Wicker, congratulate
30 him for playing such a vital role in Antioch African Methodist Episcopal Church as it
31 continues to grow and flourish, and wish him many blessings in the future.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Dr. Stafford J. Wicker