

House Resolution 1885

By: Representatives Anderson of the 92nd and Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending First Saint Paul A. M. E. Church on the occasion of its 17th
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on March 23, 1997, Bishop Donald George Kenneth Ming, Presiding Elder
4 Benjamin Gay, Mrs. Edith Ming, and Reverend Columbus H. Hartwell stood on the steps of
5 First Saint Paul A.M.E. Church and led the mass choir in a prayer of Thanksgiving; and

6 WHEREAS, after much anticipation, Bishop Ming introduced Reverend Columbus H.
7 Hartwell and his wife and announced that Reverend Hartwell would serve as First Saint
8 Paul's "supply" minister until the Annual Conference; Reverend Hartwell received his
9 appointment as the church's first pastor at the 122nd session of the Annual Conference in
10 May, 1997; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Hartwell embarked upon fulfilling his new assignment and led his
12 new congregation through tough times with lessons on healing, forgiveness, and faith; and

13 WHEREAS, after the death of Reverend Hartwell, Reverend Earle Ifill, Presiding Elder of
14 the East Atlanta District, served as the church's interim pastor; and

15 WHEREAS, he helped the congregation to regain its focus on ministry and share its grief and
16 healing with one another; the church's focused effort during this time was the establishment
17 of the Columbus H. Hartwell Scholarship fund; and

18 WHEREAS, on May 21, 2000, First Saint Paul was assigned a new pastor, Reverend Marvin
19 L. Crawford; he and his wife, Dr. Sherell Vicks-Crawford, and children, Marvin, Jr., and
20 Claire, were welcomed with open arms; and

21 WHEREAS, Reverend Crawford has revitalized the church's goal to build a new sanctuary,
22 and with a growing congregation, First Saint Paul is in great need of adequate facilities so
23 its ministries can go forth; and

24 WHEREAS, the mission of First Saint Paul is to make known God's love to all people by
25 preaching and teaching the liberating power of the Gospel, by witnessing for Christ through
26 word and deed, and by addressing and meeting physical, psychological, intellectual, and
27 spiritual needs of its congregants; and

28 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
29 remarkable institution be appropriately recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body recognize and commend First Saint Paul A. M. E. Church on the
32 occasion of its 17th anniversary and express their most sincere best wishes for the church's
33 continued success.

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 First Saint Paul A. M. E.
36 Church.