

House Resolution 112

By: Representative Setzler of the 35<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Dr. William O. Baker and congratulating him upon the grand occasion of his  
2 retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. William O. Baker has earned a reputation as an entrepreneurial conductor  
4 and creator of choral organizations; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Baker founded the DeKalb Choral Guild in 1978 at the age of 19; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Baker created the Atlanta-based William Baker Festival Singers, originally  
7 called "Gwinnett" Festival Singers, in 1985 and established the William Baker Choral  
8 Foundation in 1990; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Baker created the Mountain Park Wind Symphony in 1994 and the Kansas  
10 City Wind Symphony in 1998; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Baker served as Minister of Music for a number of significant Lutheran,  
12 Presbyterian, and United Methodist congregations across the South and Midwest; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Baker studied voice and choral conducting at Mercer University and the  
14 University of Georgia before culminating his formal education at the American Conservatory  
15 of Music in Chicago where he earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2012, he was honored for his lifetime contributions to the cultural life of the  
17 metropolitan Atlanta area by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
19 the members of this body commend Dr. William O. Baker for his outstanding musical career,  
20 congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his retirement, and extend to him their most  
21 sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
23 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Dr.  
24 William O. Baker.