

House Resolution 790

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Epworth United Methodist Church on the grand occasion of
2 its 150th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Epworth United Methodist Church was founded on June 25, 1865, by the
4 Reverend Alexander Haren and his family and was the first Methodist Episcopal church
5 established in the State of Georgia after the Civil War; and

6 WHEREAS, Epworth United Methodist Church, which first met in a small school building
7 and was called Flint Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, is one of 464 United Methodist
8 Historic Sites in the world, a distinction based on the role the church played in the
9 development of Methodism; and

10 WHEREAS, Epworth United Methodist Church was an important part of the camp meetings
11 throughout the 1800s, and its congregation met at the previously named "Fightingtown
12 Campground" and featured many of the firebrand preachers of the day, including many of
13 the church's early pastors, and welcomed the faithful from all around the region; and

14 WHEREAS, seeking to further the education of children and youth, Epworth United
15 Methodist Church built the Attala Seminary School in 1898; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1904, the Attala Seminary School outgrew its building and moved to its
17 newly built seminary building on the adjacent hill, at which point it gave the old building,
18 the site of the present day church building, back to the church; and

19 WHEREAS, the church has had many dedicated ministers and members, and descendants
20 of the founding pastor and founding church members are still part of the congregation today;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Epworth United Methodist Church celebrates its rich tradition and history on
23 its 150th anniversary with homecoming events and worship services and invites all current
24 and former members, friends, and community associates to celebrate.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body recognize the rich history of Historic Epworth United Methodist
27 Church, commend its 150 years of dedicated service to the Lord and the community, and
28 extend their most sincere best wishes for its continued growth and success.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
31 Epworth United Methodist Church.