

Senate Resolution 875

By: Senator Gooch of the 51st

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Joe L. Vernon on the occasion of his 60th pastoral  
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Joe L. Vernon has demonstrated his commitment to teaching the Gospel,  
4 witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical, psychological,  
5 intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

6 WHEREAS, born on July 30, 1935, Dr. Vernon served in the United States Marine Corps  
7 from 1953 to 1955 before continuing his education at Truett-McConnell College, where he  
8 obtained an associate's degree in 1957; University of Georgia, where he obtained a bachelor  
9 of science degree in 1960; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he obtained  
10 a master's degree in theology in 1970; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where  
11 he obtained a Doctorate of Ministry in 1975; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Vernon was called by the Lord 60 years ago and has since led nine  
13 congregations, including 12 years as a Mountain Area Missionary in northeast Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the  
15 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or  
16 humanitarian, Dr. Vernon serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

17 WHEREAS, he is united in love and marriage to his wife of almost 62 years, Phyllis, and  
18 blessed with three remarkable children, eight wonderful grandchildren, and seven amazing  
19 great-grandchildren; and

20 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message  
21 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered  
22 on behalf of persons in need.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
24 recognize and commend Dr. Joe L. Vernon on the wonderful occasion of his 60th pastoral  
25 anniversary and extend best wishes for many more years of successful fellowship and  
26 leadership.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Joe L. Vernon.