

House Resolution 411

By: Representatives Hugley of the 136th, Smith of the 134th, Smyre of the 135th, Buckner of the 137th, and Pezold of the 133rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Veronica Lewis; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Reverend Veronica Lewis has demonstrated her commitment to teaching the
3 Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
4 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and
- 5 WHEREAS, while in college, she experienced a settled conviction that God had called her
6 to preach His Gospel and she completed the ordination process in 2001, becoming an
7 itinerant elder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church; and
- 8 WHEREAS, prior to her assignment as the first female to pastor Saint Phillip AME Church
9 in Butler, Georgia, Reverend Lewis served as pastor at Wesley Chapel AME Church, Iron
10 City, Georgia; Saint Peter AME Church, Leary, Georgia; and Bethel AME Church,
11 Shellman, Georgia; and
- 12 WHEREAS, she is known as a visionary and building preacher, and under her pastoral
13 leadership, her congregations have experienced growth and have kept their eyes toward the
14 future; and
- 15 WHEREAS, while pastor at Saint Phillip AME Church, Reverend Lewis oversaw the process
16 of the church becoming an incorporated entity in the State of Georgia, obtaining 501(c)(3)
17 status which enabled the church to begin submitting proposals for grants to benefit the
18 ministry and the community; and
- 19 WHEREAS, outreach programs established by Reverend Lewis to improve the spiritual
20 growth of the church and surrounding communities include a food bank program and nursing
21 home ministry; and

22 WHEREAS, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, God has used Reverend Lewis to
23 strengthen and encourage the people of God, thus leaving a history and legacy of love to be
24 proud of, and her commitment to serving others has carried over into her secular role as a
25 social service technician, for which she was thrice awarded Employee of the Year; and

26 WHEREAS, empowered by God with a vision, she is committed to service and strives to
27 pursue excellence in ministry, demonstrating genuine concern for broken and hurting people;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to recognize the outstanding accomplishments
30 of the dynamic Christian ministry of this devout and pious woman.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body recognize and commend Reverend Veronica Lewis for her
33 outstanding dedication to the Christian ministry and extend best wishes for many more years
34 of successful fellowship and leadership.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
37 Reverend Veronica Lewis.