

House Resolution 769

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Silcox of the 52nd, Cantrell of the 22nd, Nix of the 69th, and Holmes of the 129th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Gil Watson for his 23 years of dedicated service to the
2 Northside United Methodist Church and on the occasion of his retirement; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Gil Watson has spent most of his life
5 serving as a spiritual leader in his community and has held the position of senior minister of
6 Northside United Methodist Church for the past 23 years; and

7 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
8 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
9 dramatically by his pastoral service; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Watson has been dedicated to encouraging the Northside United Methodist
11 Church congregation to put their love of Christ into action by establishing and supporting a
12 school and orphanage in India for abandoned children, ministering to the needs of some of
13 Atlanta's seemingly forgotten citizens living in a run-down community only miles from the
14 prosperous Northside area, providing scholarships for underprivileged children to attend
15 Camp Evergreen, serving homeless shelters, helping victims of sexual exploitation, and
16 working with the Atlanta Food Bank; and

17 WHEREAS, he is known for his engaging sermons that allow Scripture to come alive
18 through storytelling, and he would often conclude each message with his most famous quote,
19 "Love wasn't put in your heart to stay, love isn't love until you give it away"; and

20 WHEREAS, he has truly practiced the words of the great Martin Luther King, Jr., "If I can
21 help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a well song, if I can show
22 somebody he's traveling wrong, then my living will not be in vain"; and

23 WHEREAS, throughout his ministerial career, his vision and direction have helped many
24 churches grow in size and influence, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
27 troubled, christening a baby, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator,
28 administrator, or humanitarian, Dr. Watson has shown the energy, devotion, and commitment
29 truly reflective of divine guidance; and

30 WHEREAS, Dr. Watson has served with honor and distinction with Northside United
31 Methodist Church and will be sorely missed upon the occasion of his retirement; and

32 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that Dr. Watson's commitment to teaching
33 the Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
34 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others be appropriately recognized.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body recognize and commend Dr. Gil Watson for his innumerable good
37 works rendered on behalf of persons in need; congratulate him upon the grand occasion of
38 his retirement; and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
41 Dr. Gil Watson.