

House Resolution 673

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94th, Thomas of the 56th, Glanton of the 75th, and Jackson of the 128th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Pastor Claude Ray James on the occasion of his retirement;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Pastor Claude Ray James has demonstrated his commitment to teaching the
4 Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

6 WHEREAS, Pastor Claude Ray James was called by the Lord 43 years ago to lead
7 innumerable souls in several congregations to salvation through his faithful service in the
8 A.M.E. tradition; and

9 WHEREAS, his vision and direction have helped many A.M.E. churches grow in size and
10 influence, uplifting devout communities like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a spiritual
11 leader; and

12 WHEREAS, Pastor Claude Ray James has established numerous programs and workshops
13 which have improved the spiritual and educational growth of the church and the surrounding
14 community; and

15 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
16 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
17 humanitarian, Pastor Claude Ray James has shown the energy, devotion, and commitment
18 truly reflective of divine guidance; and

19 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Pastor Claude Ray James is a
20 source of strength and direction for persons in all walks of life; and

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

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body recognize and commend Pastor Claude Ray James on the occasion
26 of his retirement after 43 years of service and extend the most sincere best wishes for his
27 continued health and happiness.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Pastor
30 Claude Ray James.