

## House Resolution 1932

By: Representatives Prince of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Howard of the 129<sup>th</sup>, and Myles of the 126<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland on the occasion of his 40th pastoral  
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland 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, Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland was called by the Lord 40 years ago to lead the  
7 congregation of Gardner Grove Baptist Church, and he has since contributed greatly to the  
8 spiritual enrichment of the Augusta community as a preacher, counselor, teacher,  
9 humanitarian, and confidant; and

10 WHEREAS, his vision and direction have helped Gardner Grove Baptist Church grow in size  
11 and influence, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a spiritual  
12 leader and place for fellowship; and

13 WHEREAS, over the past four decades leading Gardner Grove Baptist Church, Rev. Dr.  
14 Rufus Copeland has established numerous programs and workshops which have improved  
15 the spiritual and educational growth of the church and the surrounding community; and

16 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the  
17 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or  
18 humanitarian, Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland has shown the energy, devotion, and commitment  
19 truly reflective of divine guidance; and

20 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland is a  
21 source of strength and direction for persons in all walks of life; and

22 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to recognize the outstanding accomplishments  
23 and dynamic Christian ministry of this devout and pious man.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
25 the members of this body recognize and commend Rev. Dr. Rufus Copeland on the  
26 wonderful occasion of his 40th pastoral anniversary and extend best wishes for many more  
27 years of successful fellowship and leadership.

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 Rev.  
30 Dr. Rufus Copeland.