

Senate Resolution 10EX

By: Senators Davenport of the 17th, James of the 28th, Rhett of the 33rd, Howard of the 35th, Mangham of the 55th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Philadelphia Baptist Church on the occasion of its 153rd
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Philadelphia Baptist Church was founded by a small group of men who
4 gathered together in the fall of 1873 after harvesting their crops—with a great desire for the
5 spreading of Christianity, they went from home to home singing and praying and decided to
6 build a place to worship; and

7 WHEREAS, these men built a Brush Arbor with Rev. Hilliard Glass as the first pastor, and
8 after a short time, a wooden church structure was erected—before the new church building
9 was completed, Rev. Glass departed this life; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1901, the trustees of Philadelphia Baptist Church purchased one acre of land
11 for \$15 to build a church; over the years, more property was purchased, and in 1969, the
12 church was bricked; and

13 WHEREAS, the line of pastors who contributed to the advancement of Philadelphia Baptist
14 Church were Rev. R.H. Holland, Rev. R.H. Elliott, Rev. G.W. Lowe, Rev. P.L. Sruggs, Rev.
15 Frank Strickland, Rev. Mose Aintney, Rev. I.S. Mack, Rev. Sammie Bryant, Rev. H.M.
16 Alexander, Rev. M.M. McKibbins, Rev. C. Carter., Rev. E. H. Johnson, Rev. A.L.

17 Humphrey, Rev. J.M. Gates, Rev. H. Hutherson, Rev. A.M. Reeves, Rev. M.M. Solomon,
18 Rev. J.W. Fielder, Rev. J.W. Person, Rev. G.D. McDuffie, Rev. Willie C. Neal, and present
19 pastor Rev. Antonio Wyartt; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2007, under the leadership of Rev. Willie Neal, construction began on the
21 new edifice, and on October 14 , 2007, the members marched into the new church, giving all
22 praise and honor to our Lord and Savior JESUS CHRIST; and

23 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Rev. Antonio Wyartt, the debt was paid off for the new
24 sanctuary by February 2026, and a mortgage burning ceremony will be held on Sunday, June
25 28, 2026; and

26 WHEREAS, a strong deacon board and members have contributed to the success of the
27 church and led to purchasing property, church vans, and equipment—the members, both past
28 and present, labored continuously to "Give of their best to the Master," and they have
29 dedicated their services to the "BABY OF BETHLEMEN" and have erected their church
30 structure—"TO THAT DOESTH ALL THINGS WELL."

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize the rich history of Philadelphia Baptist Church, commend its 153 years of
33 dedicated service to the Lord and community, and extend their warmest best wishes for its
34 continued growth and success.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Philadelphia
37 Baptist Church.