

House Resolution 29EX

By: Representative Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Pastor Arthur L. Powell for his outstanding ministry,  
2 leadership, and service to the citizens of Clayton County and the State of Georgia; and for  
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Pastor Arthur L. Powell is a faithful servant of God, an esteemed community  
5 leader, and a dedicated pastor whose life has been marked by unwavering commitment to  
6 ministry, faith, and public service; and

7 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell was born in Valdosta, Georgia, later becoming a native of  
8 Decatur, Georgia, and accepted Christ as his Savior in 1972 before answering the call to the  
9 Gospel Ministry in 1974; and

10 WHEREAS, he preached his first sermon from Psalms 25:2 entitled "Lord Let Me Not Be  
11 Ashamed," and he was ordained by Thankful Baptist Church in 1979; and

12 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell has faithfully served as Pastor of Travelers Rest Missionary  
13 Baptist Church in Morrow, Georgia, since 1986, leading the church through tremendous  
14 spiritual growth and expansion from a modest congregation to a thriving ministry of more  
15 than 1,500 members and over 40 ministries; and

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16 WHEREAS, under his visionary leadership, Travelers Rest Missionary Baptist Church  
17 purchased land on Rex Road in 1992 and, through faith, prayer, and dedication, constructed  
18 a new sanctuary and educational wing, marching into the new edifice in July 1999; and

19 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell continued to expand the ministry through the opening of the  
20 Genesis Christian Bookstore in 2004 and the establishment of the Family Life Center in  
21 2009, creating a lasting impact on the spiritual, educational, and social well-being of the  
22 community; and

23 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell attended Morehouse College and graduated from Dekalb College  
24 and Carver Bible College, equipping himself with the knowledge and wisdom necessary to  
25 lead God's people with excellence; and

26 WHEREAS, he has faithfully served beyond the walls of the church as past President of the  
27 Association of Christian Ministers of Clayton County, representing more than 10,000  
28 members, as past Moderator of the Hopewell Baptist Association, as a lifetime member of  
29 the Clayton County NAACP, and as a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA,  
30 Inc.; and

31 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell has received numerous honors and awards recognizing his  
32 faithful service and dedication to ministry, including the Heritage Legacy Award in 2012,  
33 the 2003 Pastors Gospel Choice Award, an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from  
34 American Bible University in 2015, and the Pillar Award in Ministry from The Good  
35 Shepherd Center of Morrow, Georgia; and

36 WHEREAS, Pastor Powell's life and ministry have been strengthened by the love and  
37 support of his devoted wife, First Lady Dianne Powell, and their daughter, Adrian; and

38 WHEREAS, through decades of faithful leadership, spiritual guidance, and community  
39 service, Pastor Arthur L. Powell has touched countless lives and remains a beacon of hope,  
40 faith, and inspiration throughout Clayton County and the State of Georgia.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
42 the members of this body recognize and commend Pastor Arthur L. Powell for his  
43 extraordinary ministry, leadership, and dedication to the people of Georgia and extend to him  
44 sincere best wishes for continued health, happiness, and success in all future endeavors.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
46 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Pastor  
47 Arthur L. Powell.