

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 592

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bishop Ronnie Elijah Brailsford Sr. has inspired and  
2 uplifted countless people through his lifetime of service in the  
3 ministry and the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

4 WHEREAS, Ronnie Brailsford was elected and consecrated as the  
5 136th bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church during the  
6 50th Quadrennial General Conference held in Philadelphia,  
7 Pennsylvania, in July 2016; he has since distinguished himself  
8 through his tenure as president of the AME Church's Council of  
9 Bishops, and since August 2024, he has proudly served as the  
10 presiding prelate of the 10th Episcopal District of the AME Church  
11 in Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, Over the years, Bishop Brailsford has upheld and  
13 advanced the humanitarian mission of the AME Church; he previously  
14 served the 19th and 20th Episcopal Districts, which together  
15 encompass more than 77,000 members in South Africa, Malawi,  
16 Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, and Mozambique; he has visited hundreds  
17 of churches and dozens of AME schools in Africa, and he has helped  
18 oversee a number of fundraisers, medical mission trips, and  
19 disaster relief efforts that have provided aid to thousands of  
20 people; and

21 WHEREAS, A native of South Carolina, Bishop Brailsford  
22 graduated from the University of South Carolina and earned his  
23 master of divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological  
24 Center in Atlanta, Georgia, where he was a Benjamin E. Mays Fellow

1 and a John Middleton Scholar; he received his doctor of ministry  
2 degree from United Theological Seminary, and he has been recognized  
3 with many academic, professional, and community accolades, as well  
4 as an honorary doctor of divinity degree from the African Methodist  
5 Episcopal University in Monrovia, Liberia; and

6 WHEREAS, Licensed to preach at the Historic Liberty Hill AME  
7 Church in Summerton, South Carolina, in 1980, Bishop Brailsford  
8 went on to pastor at churches in South Carolina and Georgia before  
9 assuming the pulpit of Bethel AME Church in Columbia, South  
10 Carolina, and guiding the congregation from 1992 to 2016; during  
11 that time, his leadership brought about significant growth in the  
12 church's membership and financial standing; and

13 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Bishop Brailsford has enjoyed  
14 the love and support of his wife of more than 40 years, Carolyn  
15 Brailsford, as well as their three children and seven  
16 grandchildren; and

17 WHEREAS, This esteemed clergyman has demonstrated a  
18 wholehearted commitment to his church and his wider community of  
19 faith, and his many good works have earned him the respect and  
20 admiration of all who know him; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby honor Bishop Ronnie Elijah Brailsford Sr. for  
23 his outstanding contributions as a spiritual leader and extend to  
24 him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for Bishop Brailsford as an expression of high regard by  
27 the Texas House of Representatives.