

By: Giddings

H.R. No. 96

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pastor John Tatum is retiring from full-time
2 ministry at St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church (UMC) in
3 Dallas, and this occasion provides a fitting opportunity to reflect
4 on his outstanding career and many achievements; and

5 WHEREAS, Responding to a call to serve in the ministry,
6 Pastor Tatum was ordained as a deacon in 1961 and graduated from
7 Paul Quinn College in 1963; over the next seven years, he earned a
8 master of theology degree from Southern Methodist University and
9 became an ordained elder in the church; and

10 WHEREAS, While studying at the university, this esteemed
11 spiritual leader oversaw the Saturday Church School and seasonal
12 sports programs for children at St. Luke "Community" UMC; he later
13 founded the Methodist Breadbasket, became the first African
14 American on staff with the North Texas Conference, and served as
15 parish director for the Inter-City Parish; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to his tenure at St. Luke's, Pastor
17 Tatum has led congregants at Crest-Moore UMC and King UMC, before
18 and after their merger into Crest-Moore King UMC, as well as at St.
19 Paul UMC and Warren UMC; he assumed his current post as senior
20 associate pastor in 1993, and has since won the respect and
21 admiration of colleagues and church members alike for his
22 dedication, wisdom, and compassion; and

23 WHEREAS, Pastor Tatum exemplifies the highest ideals of the
24 ministerial profession, and it is a pleasure to join in honoring him

1 at this time; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
3 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend John Tatum for his
4 distinguished service with St. Luke "Community" United Methodist
5 Church and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
6 happiness and success; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Pastor Tatum as an expression of high regard by the
9 Texas House of Representatives.