

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church, of the historic Austin neighborhood of Clarksville, on the grand occasion of its 132nd anniversary; and

WHEREAS, In 1871, members of the Clarksville neighborhood, including the Reverend Jacob Fontaine, Edmond Smith, Mary Smith, Shelby Madison, Sally Madison, Peter Wade, Grant Woods, Ism Williams, Grand Pa Brown, and Quinton Bolden, began to hold regular services in the Second Baptist Church, which eventually became the Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, In 1882, the congregation purchased land and built the first church edifice on West 11th Street; still located on the same street, the current church building was built in 1935 and is considered a historical landmark; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church has grown in membership, providing a place of worship and fellowship for many in the community; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Carrington family of Clarksville were founding members of the community and this neighborhood church; Essex Carrington was the father of the Reverend Albert Carrington and the first known black hoseman for the Austin Fire Department station number 10, located on Blanco Street at that time; the children of Albert and Matilda Carrington grew up in the Clarksville neighborhood and attended the Clarksville School and the Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church; members of this old Austin family continued to reside in Clarksville for many years, sharing their gifts and talents with the community; and

WHEREAS, The church's longevity and its commitment to its holy mission can be attributed to the guidance and wise stewardship of its pastors and the leadership of its current clergy, the Reverend W. B. Southerland as church leader and the Reverend H. J. Carrington, Jr., the great-grandson of Essex Carrington, as associate minister; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its long history in Clarksville, Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church has ministered faithfully to the spiritual needs of innumerable Christians, and it has undertaken many worthy projects that have ensured its continued presence as a treasure in the Clarksville community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby extend best wishes to the clergy and the members of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church on the jubilant occasion of its 132nd anniversary; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the church as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 9, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate