

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. William J. Shaw, a Marshall, Texas,
2 native, provides exceptional leadership to the National Baptist
3 Convention U.S.A., Inc., and spiritual guidance to the congregation
4 of White Rock Baptist Church; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1999, Dr. Shaw was elected president of the
6 National Baptist Convention, the largest group of predominantly
7 African American churches in the world, and his exemplary tenure
8 has reflected unity and progress; under his guidance, the
9 convention eliminated the 14-year debt on the Baptist World Center
10 in three years, implemented new accounting procedures, established
11 a retirement plan for pastors, ministers, and church staff, and
12 identified a number of outreach challenges to be met by the
13 organization; and

14 WHEREAS, Pastor of the historic White Rock Baptist Church in
15 West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, since 1956, Dr. Shaw has
16 shepherded the church through a period of growth and prosperity and
17 established outreach ministries to meet the needs of a diverse
18 metropolitan congregation; called to the ministry early in life, he
19 preached a trial sermon at age 11 and was ordained at age 17, when he
20 became pastor of Oak Hill Baptist Church in Harrison County, Texas;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, This highly regarded gentleman, who was
23 valedictorian of his high school senior class at age 16, graduated
24 summa cum laude from Bishop College and went on to receive a master

1 of divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary and a doctorate
2 in ministry from the Colgate Rochester School at Crozer Theological
3 Seminary in Rochester, New York; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Shaw is involved in numerous civic endeavors and
5 serves as a board member of Junior Achievement of Delaware Valley,
6 Inc., Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, the Greater
7 Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition, and the Martin Luther King,
8 Jr., Fellows in Black Church Studies; and

9 WHEREAS, A devoted husband and father as well, he enjoys a
10 warm family life with his wife of 42 years, Camellia, their son and
11 daughter-in-law, Timothy and Simone, and two granddaughters,
12 Lillian and Brittany; and

13 WHEREAS, Throughout his lifetime, Dr. Shaw has demonstrated a
14 deep commitment to his family, his faith, and his community, and it
15 is truly a pleasure to join in honoring him at this time; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
18 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend the Reverend
19 Dr. William J. Shaw for his outstanding leadership of the National
20 Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., and White Rock Baptist Church and
21 extend to him heartfelt best wishes for continued success and
22 happiness; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Dr. Shaw as an expression of high regard by the Texas
25 House of Representatives.

Jones of Dallas

H.R. No. 262

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 262 was adopted by the House on
October 10, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House