

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 1550

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of the Reverend Oliver Charlton "O. C."
2 Johnson, Sr., on January 21, 2003, at the age of 67, has deeply
3 saddened not only his family but also his many friends and admirers
4 in the Houston community; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on February 20, 1935, in the Bayou City to the
6 Reverend Leroy Johnson and Pearl Johnson, he was particularly close
7 to his uncle and aunt, Ben and Inez Johnson, who helped raise him;
8 he was a graduate of Booker T. Washington Senior High School and
9 went on to earn a four-year certificate from Bishop College in
10 Dallas and a bachelor's degree in theology from Union Theological
11 Baptist Seminary; and

12 WHEREAS, He answered the call to the ministry in 1958 and
13 pastored several Texas churches over the course of his career
14 before embarking on his 38-year tenure as the spiritual leader of
15 Lyons Unity Missionary Baptist Church in Houston; and

16 WHEREAS, A gifted vocalist as well as a dynamic preacher,
17 Reverend Johnson was featured on many religious recordings,
18 including "Poor Jesus," "Wonderful," and "Precious Lord"; and

19 WHEREAS, This highly regarded clergyman worked in behalf of
20 his faith with both the Home Mission Board of the National
21 Missionary Baptist Convention of America and the Independent
22 Missionary Baptist General Association of Texas, which he had
23 served as secretary; and

24 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson married the former Faye Marie

1 Bennett on June 15, 1957, and the couple were richly blessed with a
2 fine family including three daughters, two sons who have answered
3 the call to the ministry, and 13 grandchildren; and

4 WHEREAS, Oliver Charlton Johnson, Sr., was a faithful pastor
5 and devoted family man who inspired the members of his church and
6 community; he will long be remembered for his compassion, devotion,
7 and service to God; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Reverend Oliver
10 Charlton "O. C." Johnson, Sr., and extend sincere sympathy to his
11 wife, Faye Marie Johnson; to his daughters and sons-in-law,
12 Carletta and Edmond Moss, Andrea and Reginald Johnson, and Carla
13 Faye and Durst Roland Cage; to his sons and daughters-in-law, the
14 Reverend O. C. Johnson, Jr., and Cathy Johnson, and the Reverend
15 Orestes Johnson and Stephanie Johnson; to his grandchildren; to his
16 siblings, Katie Murchison and her husband, O. C., Elizabeth Faye
17 Duncan, and Glen and Eddie Johnson; and to all those who mourn the
18 passing of this beloved man; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the
22 Reverend Oliver Charlton Johnson, Sr.