

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 166**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Reverend Dr. Sarah F. Davis for her spiritual leadership as pastor of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in San Antonio; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Davis was appointed pastor of the 112-year-old church in 1997 after serving as pastor of three other congregations; the first woman in Texas to receive an appointment to a major African Methodist Episcopal Church, she is a former corporate manager and administrator who brings a unique approach to her ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Davis earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Texas, a master's degree from Pace University in New York, a master of divinity degree from the Houston Graduate School of Theology and a doctor of ministry degree from Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology; she completed postgraduate studies at Auburn School of Theology in New York and Harvard Divinity School; and

**WHEREAS**, Widely regarded as a trailblazer among women in her church, Dr. Davis has assumed many leadership positions; she serves as chair of a number of boards of examiners, is a member of the General Board of the church and was nominated by the church to serve on the 500-member World Methodist Council; and

**WHEREAS**, The courageous, creative and energetic church leader is heard daily on the popular radio show, "Hold On To Your Hope," and is much sought after as a preacher, teacher, revivalist and seminar leader; and

**WHEREAS**, A woman of spiritual depth and devotion, Pastor Davis is a source of inspiration to many; she has prayed for and counseled her church members and others during their hardships and in times of bereavement, and she has traveled throughout the world to spread the message of her ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Davis has had a positive influence on the lives of countless Christians and is truly a beloved and highly respected church leader; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the Reverend Dr. Sarah F. Davis for her outstanding contributions to the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the citizens of Southwest Texas; and, be it further

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

Zaffirini

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 13, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate