

By: Brown of Kaufman

H.R. No. 103

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Church of the Living God, P.G.T., in Athens
2 celebrated 100 years of faithful witness and service during its
3 centennial commemoration on July 22-24, 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, The church traces its roots to services that W. H.
5 Richardson, an evangelist, began holding in November 1905;
6 congregants initially met under a brush arbor at 511 Chase Street,
7 but by the end of 1906 they had erected a small frame sanctuary;
8 that first building was replaced in 1917 by a larger structure,
9 which was itself later enlarged and remodeled; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1985 the congregation moved into its present
11 spacious facility on Highway 175 East, where the church now owns
12 approximately 10 acres; a family-youth center was completed in
13 2003, providing a full-size gym, a double conference room, five
14 classrooms, a kitchen, and office space; and

15 WHEREAS, Today the church membership stands at about 200,
16 while a staff of 13 ministers oversees areas ranging from prayer,
17 youth, and music to prison outreach; programs offered by the church
18 include Bible classes, women's groups, four choirs, and a
19 twice-a-month children's church; and

20 WHEREAS, Eldress Mary Henderson, a native of Athens, serves
21 as senior pastor of the congregation; after balancing involvement
22 in the church with her career at First National Bank for a number of
23 years, she resigned from the bank a decade ago in order to fully
24 respond to her calling; and

1 WHEREAS, Throughout the history of this venerable church,
2 succeeding generations have continued to honor and build on the
3 contributions of members who have gone before; sustained by a
4 common purpose, warm fellowship, and inspired teaching, the
5 congregants of the Church of the Living God have remained steadfast
6 in their care for one another and their ministry to the world around
7 them, and it is a pleasure to recognize the enduring commitment of
8 this community of faith; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
10 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby honor the Church of the
11 Living God, P.G.T., in Athens on the joyful occasion of its
12 centennial and that all those associated with this church be
13 extended sincere best wishes as they embark on their second hundred
14 years of praise and worship; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the Church of the Living God as an expression of high
17 esteem by the Texas House of Representatives.