

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 160

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The congregants of Fifth Ward Missionary Baptist  
2 Church in Houston are honoring the Reverend Leonard N. Barksdale on  
3 the occasion of his 11th anniversary as pastor on August 14, 2005;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Reverend Barksdale joined the Fifth Ward Missionary  
6 Baptist community in 1974 and has served as pastor since May 16,  
7 1994; before assuming his current post, he was secretary of the  
8 trustee board, chair of the education committee, member of the  
9 brotherhood and male chorus, Sunday school teacher, and minister;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, Born on November 11, 1948, in Galveston, Reverend  
12 Barksdale graduated from Central High School and earned his  
13 bachelor's degree from the University of Houston and his doctoral  
14 degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law; he also obtained a  
15 degree in biblical studies from the College of Biblical  
16 Studies-Houston and completed postgraduate work at Dallas  
17 Theological Seminary; and

18           WHEREAS, After graduating from law school, this esteemed  
19 Texan received a Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship and served as an  
20 attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Louisville, Kentucky;  
21 eventually he entered private practice in Houston, and maintained  
22 membership in several professional organizations, including the  
23 State Bar of Texas, the National Bar Association, the American Bar  
24 Association, and the Houston Lawyer's Association, which he served

1 as secretary; and

2 WHEREAS, A dedicated member of his community, Reverend  
3 Barksdale currently contributes his time as a volunteer for the  
4 Houston Independent School District; he has received numerous  
5 honors for his professional and civic accomplishments and was named  
6 a Man on the Move in the 90s by Sigma Gamma Rho Society, Inc.,  
7 Outstanding Minister by the Sugar Valley chapter of the Top Ladies  
8 of Distinction, Inc., and Houston Man of the Year by Inspire Women;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In his role as pastor of FWMBC, Reverend Barksdale  
11 has incorporated many new ministries, including a mentorship  
12 program, a community awareness committee, a young adult ministry,  
13 and a computer literacy ministry, to name but a few; he has also  
14 cooperated with nine area churches to build two new homes for  
15 families in need and has secured the construction of new  
16 classrooms, a multipurpose center, and a library and the  
17 implementation of a website for the church; and

18 WHEREAS, With the love and support of his wife, Gladys Glass  
19 Barksdale, and their daughters, Lea and Anita, Reverend Barksdale  
20 has dedicated his life to improving the lives of Fifth Ward  
21 residents by providing spiritual guidance and serving as a  
22 professional role model, and he will undoubtedly continue to  
23 promote a message of faith and goodwill in his continued work with  
24 his church; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
26 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, honor the Reverend Leonard N.  
27 Barksdale of Houston for 11 years of service as pastor of Fifth Ward

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1 Missionary Baptist Church and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
2 continued success and fulfillment; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for Reverend Barksdale as an expression of high regard by  
5 the Texas House of Representatives.