

By: Giddings

H.R. No. 172

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Church of the Living God, The Pillar and Ground
2 of the Truth, Dallas Temple No. 1, is celebrating its 75th
3 anniversary in August 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Organized on August 30, 1930, the congregation chose
5 Elder Jefferson A. Taylor as its first pastor; later that year the
6 church became the first in Dallas to be affiliated with the National
7 Assembly of The Church of the Living God, The Pillar and Ground of
8 the Truth, Inc., of Muskogee, Oklahoma; and

9 WHEREAS, After meeting for a time on State Street, the church
10 relocated to a site at Munger and Washington Avenues; when that
11 property was sold to make way for the new Central Expressway, the
12 church moved to 3714 Munger Avenue; in 1955 the congregation
13 relocated yet again, to 3100 Metropolitan Avenue, and since 1983 it
14 has met at 2610 East Ledbetter Drive in Oak Cliff; and

15 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor served the church as pastor through
16 1931; during the remainder of that decade, the congregation was led
17 by Bishop A. B. Williams and by Elders H. E. Henderson and A. R.
18 Johnson, the latter two holding the office of interim pastor; Elder
19 J. A. Artis served as pastor from 1940 to 1946, and Bishop Williams
20 returned to guide the church from 1946 to 1973; and

21 WHEREAS, For the past 32 years, Bishop Lonnie Beasley, Sr.,
22 has shepherded The Church of the Living God with tireless devotion,
23 and his exceptional vision and leadership have contributed
24 immeasurably to the vigor that the church has enjoyed over the past

1 three decades; this revered pastor, who has spent a total of 53
2 years in the ministry, is now stepping down to enjoy a well-deserved
3 retirement, and a celebration of his distinguished service is being
4 held in conjunction with the church's diamond jubilee; and

5 WHEREAS, Assuming the pulpit of The Church of the Living God
6 is Bishop Charles C. Junior, who is moving to Dallas from the church
7 in Los Angeles, California, and who currently serves as vice
8 president of the National Assembly of The Church of the Living God,
9 The Pillar and Ground of the Truth; and

10 WHEREAS, Even as congregants pause to reflect on their rich
11 history, they are laying ambitious plans for the future; envisioned
12 are a new family life center and a host of ministries to the
13 community, including day care and recreation programs, job training
14 and placement services, and the provision of food and clothing to
15 the homeless and those living in transition; and

16 WHEREAS, Throughout the life of this venerable church,
17 succeeding generations have continued to honor and build on the
18 achievements of members who have gone before; sustained by a common
19 purpose, warm fellowship, and inspired teaching, the congregants of
20 The Church of the Living God have remained steadfast in their care
21 for one another and their ministry to the world around them, and it
22 is a pleasure to recognize the enduring commitment of this
23 community of faith; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
25 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2005, hereby honor The Church of
26 the Living God, The Pillar and Ground of the Truth, Dallas Temple
27 No. 1, on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, and extend to all

1 those associated with the church sincere best wishes for a
2 memorable celebration; and, be it further

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