

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 244

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Dr. Michael P. Williams on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as founding pastor of JOY Baptist Tabernacle; and

**WHEREAS**, JOY Baptist Tabernacle was founded on February 9, 1986, and under Dr. Williams's guidance, the church has grown to become a vital element in the life of the Houston community; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the last 20 years, Dr. Williams has ministered faithfully to the temporal and spiritual needs of innumerable people; and

**WHEREAS**, Under his outstanding leadership, the JOY Baptist Tabernacle has provided enlightenment, hope, and support to the spiritual life, the civic life, the social life, and the educational life of the city; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Williams serves on numerous boards and commissions, including the Houston Community College Board of Trustees; he has also served on the faculty of the Houston Graduate School of Theology and lectured at Rice University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Williams has developed several programs to meet the needs of the community, including Youth Grow and Helping Others Pursue Excellence (H.O.P.E.); his many activities have included forming a coalition of ministers to address the needs of Hurricane Katrina victims; and

**WHEREAS**, A man of exceptional intellectual and spiritual depth, Dr. Williams is in demand around the nation and the world as a speaker and lecturer; he has served as the keynote speaker at Yale Divinity School and Church of God International and was a participant in the United Kingdom Conference on Evangelism; and

**WHEREAS**, The members of JOY Baptist Tabernacle will celebrate Dr. Williams's anniversary on May 21, 2006; the theme for this joyous occasion will be "Celebrating 20 years of a man whose ministry matters"; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby join the members of the JOY Baptist Tabernacle in commending Dr. Michael P. Williams for his dedication and his service to his church and his community; and, be it further

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

Ellis

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 15, 2006.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate