

By: Hochberg

H.R. No. 719

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church of Houston is
2 commemorating its 140th anniversary on March 20, 2005, and the
3 event promises to be a memorable day filled with prayer,
4 reflection, and celebration among congregants dressed in period
5 clothing from the era of the church's founding; and

6 WHEREAS, This treasured institution dates back to March 10,
7 1865, when a group of citizens from the Piney Point community
8 organized the congregation under the leadership of the Reverend Max
9 Austin, Sr., and Hannah Rasmus; and

10 WHEREAS, Initially built on a one-acre tract of land
11 purchased for \$1.50, the church has since moved and undergone
12 several expansion and renovation projects, adding buildings and
13 land to keep pace with the needs of its growing membership; today,
14 its physical plant includes the Pilgrim Rest Activity Center and
15 the J. B. Alford Memorial Education Building; and

16 WHEREAS, Through the years, the church has benefited from the
17 vision and guidance of a number of dedicated pastors, including the
18 Reverend James Ellis Blake, who has ably guided the church through
19 an exciting period of progress and development since 2002; and

20 WHEREAS, After 140 years of service and fellowship, Pilgrim
21 Rest remains a tribute to the commitment of its members, past and
22 present, who have given generously of their time, energy, and
23 financial resources to ensure its continued existence as a house of
24 worship; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
2 Legislature hereby honor Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church on
3 the joyous occasion of its 140th anniversary and extend to its
4 members heartfelt best wishes for a meaningful observance; and, be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas
8 House of Representatives.