

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The retirement of Dr. Gerald Mann as senior pastor
2 of Riverbend Church in Austin provides an apt occasion to recognize
3 this renowned minister's myriad contributions to his faith
4 community; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of West Columbia, Dr. Mann earned his
6 bachelor's degree in religion at the University of Corpus Christi
7 while preaching at the First Baptist Church of Schulenburg, and he
8 later garnered his master's in theology and his doctorate in
9 philosophy from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

10 WHEREAS, Following the completion of his education, Dr. Mann
11 served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Hereford, before moving
12 to Austin to minister at University Baptist Church; and

13 WHEREAS, This talented and dynamic public speaker soon
14 accepted a new role that would earn him statewide recognition;
15 named chaplain of the Texas Legislature, he ably served the House of
16 Representatives from 1975 to 1995 and the Senate from 1976 to 1996;
17 famous for his unique sense of humor that permeated his opening
18 "one-line zinger" prayers, Dr. Mann earned a dedicated following of
19 legislators and Capitol visitors alike; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Mann began his own church in 1979 with 60
21 committed members and a land grant in West Austin; through the
22 ensuing years, the congregation at Riverbend Church grew steadily,
23 and today more than 8,000 area residents attend regularly to hear
24 Dr. Mann's entertaining and inspiring sermons; in order to reach an

1 even wider audience, Dr. Mann's services were televised in the
2 Capital City and later syndicated internationally, reaching more
3 than 70 million homes; and

4 WHEREAS, The author of 11 books, the eminently quotable Dr.
5 Mann has been cited by a host of respected news sources, including
6 *Newsweek*, *NBC Nightly News*, and *The Wall Street Journal*; moreover,
7 he was recently named one of the most effective preachers in the
8 English-speaking world; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Mann's untiring efforts and rousing sermons
10 reflect an uncompromising commitment to making faith work in
11 everyday life, and it is a pleasure to join in celebrating his
12 outstanding record of achievement; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Gerald Mann on his retirement
15 as senior pastor of Riverbend Church and commend him for his years
16 of dedicated service to the Austin community; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Dr. Mann as an expression of high regard by the Texas
19 House of Representatives.

Baxter

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
Elkins	Laubenberg	Uresti
Escobar	Leibowitz	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Luna	Veasey
Farrar	Madden	Villarreal
Flores	Martinez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	West
Frost	McCall	Wong
Gallego	McClendon	Woolley
Gattis	McReynolds	Zedler

H.R. No. 750

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 750 was adopted by the House on April 12, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House