

By: Jones of Dallas

H.R. No. 1632

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, On June 5, 2005, members and friends of New Hope  
2           Missionary Baptist Church in Wheelock are marking an important  
3           occasion as they celebrate the dedication of their historic church  
4           bell in memory of Sam and Lucy Bell Stubbs Mitchell; and

5           WHEREAS, In the early 1900s after the death of her husband,  
6           Mrs. Mitchell gave the congregation permission to build a church on  
7           her property; the Mitchells' son, Elijah, later served as a bell  
8           ringer, and his daughter, lifelong Wheelock resident Estelle  
9           Mitchell Adams, coordinated the campaign to restore the bell; Mrs.  
10          Adams fondly remembers her father ringing the bell during her  
11          childhood, though it was stilled for nearly 70 years after falling  
12          from its tower onto the grassy churchyard; and

13          WHEREAS, Estimated to be about two centuries old, the  
14          recently restored bell has played a key role in the life of  
15          countless individuals in the close-knit church and surrounding  
16          community; depending on the number of its melodious rings, it has  
17          signaled many a call to worship as well as notified area residents  
18          of myriad births and deaths of family and friends; and

19          WHEREAS, The church bell of New Hope Missionary Baptist  
20          Church is a vital link to the rich history of Robertson County and  
21          the Lone Star State, and the dedication of its beloved church bell  
22          is truly an event to celebrate; now, therefore, be it

23          RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
24          Legislature hereby congratulate all those affiliated with New Hope

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1 Missionary Baptist Church on the dedication of their church bell  
2 and extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it  
3 further

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