

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 536

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Ron Durham, who is retiring after 32 years of outstanding service to the Columbus Avenue Baptist Church of Waco; and

WHEREAS, Ron Durham grew up in Waco and graduated from Waco High School in 1959; he attended Baylor University, where he met Vera Elizabeth Parks, who later became his wife; and

WHEREAS, After receiving his master's degree from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1969, Ron Durham served with various congregations before joining the Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in 1973 as associate pastor and minister to college students; and

WHEREAS, Since he became pastor of the church in 1980, the ministry of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church has grown tremendously, and the church's facilities have expanded to meet the needs of its growing congregation and ministry; during his tenure, construction of the Children's Building and the Fellowship Hall has taken place, and the church's sanctuary has undergone major renovations; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Durham's commitment to the Waco community has included numerous civic memberships and service on the Baylor University Board of Trustees and the Truett Theological Seminary Board of Advisors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby commend Pastor Ron Durham for his many years of invaluable leadership at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church and his contributions to the Waco 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.

Averitt

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 4, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate