

By: Vo

H.R. No. 821

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pastor R. L. Simmons, Jr., and his wife, Deborah
2 Simmons, are being honored by the members of Crossroads Cathedral
3 Church in Missouri City on March 16, 2007, during a banquet themed
4 "The Labor of Love Celebration"; and

5 WHEREAS, Since its founding by Pastor and Mrs. Simmons in
6 1997, Crossroads Cathedral has become a vital community resource, a
7 warm, spirit-filled haven where all are encouraged to discover
8 their individual gifts and share them with their fellow
9 congregants; the church supports a number of programs, including
10 ministries devoted to youth, women, men, music, media,
11 transportation, and a food pantry; and

12 WHEREAS, Pastor Simmons attended Texas Tech University and
13 served his country as a member of the United States Army; since
14 2005, he has been enrolled in the College of Biblical Studies in
15 Houston, where he is completing coursework in theology and divinity
16 programs; and

17 WHEREAS, After accepting the call to the ministry as a
18 youngster, Ray Simmons preached his first sermon at the Evangelist
19 Temple Church of God in Christ in Houston and received his
20 minister's license in 1986; a past district expeditor for the
21 Sunnyside District of the Texas South Central Jurisdiction Church
22 of God in Christ, and guest evangelist for a countywide youth
23 crusade in Brazoria, Pastor Simmons was ordained an elder, with
24 highest honors, in the Church of God in Christ, Inc., in 1997; and

1 WHEREAS, Active in community affairs, this esteemed
2 clergyman has been elected to the Alief ISD board of trustees; he is
3 vice president of the Huntington Village Patio Homes Neighborhood
4 Civic Association board, and trustee on the Houston-Galveston Area
5 Council board; in addition, he is liaison pastor for the Briargate
6 Elementary School, adopted by his church, and he received a
7 Community Service Award for outstanding leadership and service to
8 the school, the wider community, and the Greater Houston
9 metropolitan area; and

10 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Pastor Simmons enjoys the
11 support of his devoted wife and the couple's two children; Mrs.
12 Simmons has been a tireless partner to her husband in his ministry,
13 graciously sharing her time and talents in behalf of myriad church
14 activities; and

15 WHEREAS, Pastor R. L. and Deborah Simmons are a blessing in
16 the lives of countless Texans, and they truly deserve special
17 recognition for their commitment to their church and community;
18 now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
20 Legislature hereby commend Pastor R. L. Simmons, Jr., and Deborah
21 Simmons on their exemplary service to the congregation of
22 Crossroads Cathedral Church and the people of Missouri City and
23 extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Pastor and Mrs. Simmons as an expression of high regard
27 by the Texas House of Representatives.