

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 2121

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The 90th birthday of an esteemed Texan is indeed a  
2 joyous occasion, and on November 28, 2006, the Reverend Claude  
3 William Black, Jr., celebrated this special milestone in his life;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio in 1916, Reverend Black attended  
6 Morehouse College and Andover Newton Theological School; he served  
7 as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Massachusetts and St.  
8 Matthew Baptist Church in Corpus Christi before joining Mt. Zion  
9 First Baptist Church in San Antonio in 1949; he remained at the helm  
10 of Mt. Zion for nearly 50 years; and

11           WHEREAS, An inspiring leader both in and out of the pulpit,  
12 Reverend Black advocated for equal treatment of minorities during  
13 the 1950s and 1960s, organizing and leading civil rights marches  
14 throughout the state; in 1973, he was elected to the San Antonio  
15 City Council, on which he served four terms and became the first  
16 black mayor pro tem; moreover, he founded the city's first credit  
17 union for African Americans and served as president of the Baptist  
18 Ministers Union of San Antonio; and

19           WHEREAS, Reverend Black's efforts in behalf of the city of  
20 San Antonio, his steadfast faith, and his commitment to his fellow  
21 Texans have earned him the lasting respect of countless  
22 individuals, and it is a pleasure to honor him for nine decades of a  
23 life well lived; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby congratulate the Reverend Claude William Black,  
2 Jr., on his 90th birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
3 the future; and, be it further

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