

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 485

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Reverend Dr. Michael E. Rutledge, who is celebrating his first anniversary as pastor of Mount Ararat Baptist Church in Houston on March 25, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Rutledge was installed as Mount Ararat Baptist Church's third pastor on March 26, 2006; he brought with him a vision for expansion of the church campus and ministries to meet the growing needs of the surrounding Houston community; and

WHEREAS, He has demonstrated remarkable leadership through his inspirational teaching and his dynamic sermons; members of the church have been both blessed and motivated by his humility and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rutledge received a doctor of ministry degree from New Vision University in North Carolina, a master of arts degree in theology and ethics from Ashland Theological Seminary in Ohio, and a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Tougaloo College in Mississippi; he has completed additional studies at Houston Graduate School of Theology and at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, He founded Mount Carmel Community Baptist Church in Steubenville, Ohio, and has been an active leader in the Congress of Christian Education of the Ohio Baptist State Convention; he served in the chaplain corps of the United States Navy from 1989 to 1997; and

WHEREAS, Through his keen insight, his patience, and his dedication to the mission of the church, Pastor Rutledge has had a positive influence on the lives of many Christians; he is truly a dedicated and committed church leader; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby congratulate the Reverend Dr. Michael E. Rutledge on the occasion of his first anniversary as pastor of Mount Ararat Baptist Church and extend to him best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Whitmire

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 19, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate