H.R. No. 275

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The members of Bethany First Baptist Church in San 2 Antonio joined together on November 14, 2010, to honor the Reverend 3 Dr. Ronald Benson and Sister Lillian R. Benson for 30 years of 4 dedicated service to that congregation; and

5 WHEREAS, A San Antonio native, Pastor Benson graduated from 6 Sam Houston High School and earned a bachelor's degree from St. 7 Mary's University in 1970; he went on to attain a bachelor's degree 8 in theology from Guadalupe Baptist Theological Seminary and a law 9 degree from St. Mary's, receiving both in 1973; Pastor Benson has 10 worked as an attorney for more than 30 years, while Sister Benson 11 teaches first grade at Neal Elementary School in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Benson founded Bethany First Baptist Church in 1980 and has seen the congregation grow from 10 members to more than 200; its ministries are devoted to an array of causes, including efforts to reach out to the elderly and the sick as well as initiatives to collect food and clothing for the needy and for charitable groups; and

WHEREAS, In addition to their years of service at Bethany First Baptist, Pastor Benson and his wife have also served as foster parents for two children; moreover, Pastor Benson chaired the political action committee for the Baptist Ministers Union, which, along with other community organizations, provided key support for the adoption of a state holiday celebrating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

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1 WHEREAS, Reverend and Sister Benson have led Bethany First 2 Baptist Church with conviction and compassion, and they have earned 3 the lasting respect and admiration of their congregants as well as 4 members of the greater community; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas 6 Legislature hereby commend the Reverend Dr. Ronald Benson and 7 Sister Lillian R. Benson for their 30 years of outstanding service 8 to Bethany First Baptist Church and extend to them sincere best 9 wishes for continued success with their important work; and, be it 10 further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 12 prepared for Reverend and Sister Benson as an expression of high 13 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

McClendon

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 275 was adopted by the House on February 24, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House