

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 277

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of the Reverend Dr. Lawrence A. Crenshaw of San Antonio on
3 December 18, 2010, at the age of 86; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Etha Mae Winn and Marcus Crenshaw,
5 Lawrence Crenshaw was born in Caldwell County on March 4, 1924; he
6 grew up learning the value of hard work on his family's 239-acre
7 farm, where he chopped wood, hauled water, milked cows, picked
8 cotton, and stripped sugarcane; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Crenshaw decided at an early age to dedicate his
10 life to the ministry; after graduating from St. John School in Dale,
11 he attended Conroe College and Mary Allen College, earning
12 bachelor's and master's degrees in theology and divinity as well as
13 a doctorate in divinity; and

14 WHEREAS, During his more than six decades as a pastor,
15 Reverend Crenshaw shared his knowledge, wisdom, and spiritual
16 guidance with many congregations, serving churches in Navasota,
17 Littig, and Round Rock; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1953, he was called to lead Palestine Baptist
19 Church in San Antonio, and through the years, he revitalized the
20 house of worship by creating new outreach ministries to serve
21 members and area residents in need; under his leadership, the
22 congregation built a new facility and spread a message of hope to
23 the greater public through radio and television broadcasts; and

24 WHEREAS, In addition to his work with Palestine Baptist,

1 Dr. Crenshaw served his community of faith as a Bible instructor
2 with Guadalupe College and as vice president and president of the
3 Sunday School and BYBU Congress; he also held offices on local,
4 state, and national levels and as chair of the permanent
5 organization committee, co-chair of the pastor's conference, vice
6 chair of the finance committee, and historian for the district
7 association; and

8 WHEREAS, Reverend Crenshaw exchanged wedding vows with
9 Estella Washington on September 17, 1947, and the couple had a
10 rewarding marriage that spanned more than half a century; after his
11 wife's passing, he was fortunate enough to find love a second time,
12 and in 2007 he married Mattie Johnson, with whom he shared a special
13 enjoyment of traveling; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Lawrence Crenshaw was a gifted and devoted
15 pastor who made a profound difference in the lives of those who had
16 the privilege of hearing him preach, and although he is deeply
17 missed, he leaves behind a legacy that will be treasured for years
18 to come; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Reverend
21 Dr. Lawrence A. Crenshaw and extend sincere sympathy to the members
22 of his family: to his wife, Mattie Crenshaw; to his sisters, Cleola
23 Franks, Rosa Lee Taylor, Ophelia Knox, Dee Dee Bennett, Effie Kemp,
24 and Julia Crenshaw-Moore and her husband, Willie; and to his other
25 relatives and friends; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of

H.R. No. 277

1 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the
2 Reverend Dr. Lawrence A. Crenshaw.

3