

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1181

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize New Hope Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, on the grand occasion of its 138th anniversary, which is being celebrated July 24, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Organized on July 27, 1873, New Hope Baptist Church has the distinction of being the first black church in Dallas to be entirely organized and owned by black people; the church has its roots in a series of prayer meetings held in a log home by seven dedicated Christians who decided to form a church; the first pastor was a traveling missionary evangelist, the Reverend John Hay; and

WHEREAS, Over the last 138 years, the church has ministered faithfully to the needs of the citizens of Dallas; under the leadership of the Reverend E. W. D. Isaac, the church's youth program was expanded, and the church developed into a true center for Christian community improvement; under the guidance of Dr. Alexander Stephens Jackson, who had a lengthy tenure as pastor, a new church edifice was built and became a cultural, political, and educational gathering place in the city; and

WHEREAS, In the past decade, from 1999 to 2009, the Reverend Alfred Walker, Jr., served as the 12th pastor of the church; since 2009, Dr. Ronald E. Jones has served as interim pastor, and under his leadership, the church has continued to undertake many worthy projects in the community; and

WHEREAS, New Hope Baptist Church has consistently served as an invaluable source of strength to its members during their hardships and in difficult times; and

WHEREAS, The observance of the church's 138th anniversary is an opportunity to pay tribute to the church for its contributions to the lives of area citizens and for the support and inspiration it provides to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby extend best wishes to the clergy and members of New Hope Baptist Church on the joyous occasion of its 138th anniversary; and, be it further

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

West

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 25, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate