

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 1574

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pastor Bruce Datcher of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist  
2 Church in Fort Worth is serving as Pastor of the Day for the Texas  
3 House of Representatives on April 29, 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, After joining Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church as  
5 an interim pastor in 2003, Pastor Datcher assumed the pulpit  
6 permanently in 2004; he spent his first years with the church  
7 focused on youth outreach and developing programs that offered  
8 mentors and financial assistance for college to young people; and

9 WHEREAS, This notable leader was instrumental in the church's  
10 development of the Brighter Outlook Community Center, which hosts  
11 programs for senior citizens, including a hot meal initiative,  
12 social activities, health education, and exercise classes, and for  
13 children, providing healthy meals, school supply and clothing  
14 giveaways, and gifts at holiday time; he now serves as the nonprofit  
15 center's president and CEO; moreover, he helped to inspire a  
16 countywide senior outreach program organized by the Amon Carter  
17 Museum of American Art; and

18 WHEREAS, Recognized for his efforts with many awards and  
19 honors, Pastor Datcher received the Young Preacher of the Year  
20 Award in 2006 and the R. E. Price Community Service Award this year;  
21 he has a bachelor's degree in Biblical studies from Aspen Christian  
22 College and a master's degree from Aspen Theological Seminary;  
23 currently, he is a candidate for a doctoral degree from the Newburg  
24 Theological Seminary; and

1           WHEREAS, Pastor Datcher serves the broader community in a  
2 variety of ways; he is a member of the Fort Worth mayor's  
3 faith-based cabinet, is affiliated with a leadership initiative of  
4 the Fort Worth public school system, and is part of a YMCA strategy  
5 team for Fort Worth; in addition, he serves as an advisor with the  
6 Area Agency on Aging/United Way of Tarrant County's Neighbor  
7 Helping Neighbor program, as a senior chaplain to the office of a  
8 Dallas County constable, as a co-chair of Zone II of the Galilee  
9 Griggs Memorial District Association of Baptist Churches, as  
10 general secretary of the Texas State Missionary Baptist Convention,  
11 and as assistant general secretary of the Moderators Auxiliary of  
12 the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and

13           WHEREAS, Pastor Datcher is an outstanding preacher and  
14 community leader, and through the years he has inspired countless  
15 Texans with his message of faith and goodwill; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
17 Legislature hereby express its sincere appreciation to Pastor Bruce  
18 Datcher for his service as Pastor of the Day and extend to him  
19 warmest best wishes for continued success and fulfillment in his  
20 ministry; and, be it further

21           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for Pastor Datcher as an expression of high regard by the  
23 Texas House of Representatives.