

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 759

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Joseph C. Parker, Jr., who has been named the recipient of the 2013 Heman Marion Sweatt Legacy Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parker is senior pastor at David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Austin; he is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, and he earned a degree from The University of Texas School of Law, where he was selected as a member of the Order of Barristers; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the course of his career as a civil trial attorney and mediator, Mr. Parker served as chief of litigation for the State Bar of Texas, and he was the first African American to be named president of the Travis County Bar Association; he is a Master of the Court in the American Inns of Court and a Fellow of the Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution at The University of Texas School of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, He holds a master of divinity degree from the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University and a doctorate in urban ministry from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston; he served as associate pastor for Christian education at David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church before assuming the position of senior pastor in 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parker is the author of *Holy Change: A Systemic Approach to Transforming a Community* and has served on the faculties of Baylor University and The University of Texas School of Law; he has served on the boards of Safe Place and the Austin Area Urban League and is the founding president of Texas

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Congregations United for Empowerment; he is truly deserving of recognition for his many contributions to his community; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby commend Joseph C. Parker, Jr., on his outstanding achievements and extend congratulations to him on his selection as the recipient of the 2013 Heman Marion Sweatt Legacy Award; and, be it further

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

Watson

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 25, 2013.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate