

By: Thompson of Harris

H.R. No. 535

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members of the Fellowship of Enlightenment in  
2 Houston are gathering on February 26, 2017, to honor Phyllis  
3 Kennedy on her retirement as minister of music for that  
4 congregation; and

5           WHEREAS, A native of Milwaukee, Phyllis Kennedy has devoted  
6 herself to her faith throughout her life; at the age of just 16, she  
7 became the choir director of New Community Baptist Church in  
8 Houston, where her father, the Reverend L. A. Kennedy, served as  
9 pastor, and she went on to earn a bachelor's degree in divinity; and

10           WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy has built an accomplished career in  
11 music ministry that has spanned more than four decades; over the  
12 years, she has distinguished herself by organizing the New Children  
13 of Christ choir and founding the All Nations in Praise and  
14 Impartation conferences; moreover, she has released several  
15 well-received albums, including *I Am Determined*, *Gotta Keep on*  
16 *Moving*, and *It's a Good Day*, and collaborated with such prominent  
17 gospel artists as Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar, and Donnie  
18 McClurkin; also known for her skills as a writer, she has authored  
19 two books, *She Just Wanted to Preach* and *My Morning Worship and*  
20 *Meditation*, as well as several plays; and

21           WHEREAS, In all her endeavors, Ms. Kennedy is blessed with  
22 the love and encouragement of a fine family, including her two  
23 daughters, LeKesha Garrett and her husband, Rod, and Airika Glaude  
24 and her husband, Curry, and her four grandchildren, Mia, Myles,

1 Steven, and Kyren; and

2 WHEREAS, Throughout her tenure, this esteemed clergy member  
3 has demonstrated a wholehearted commitment to her calling, using  
4 music to greatly inspire the congregation of the Fellowship of  
5 Enlightenment and the wider community of faith, and she may reflect  
6 with pride on her achievements as she embarks on the next exciting  
7 chapter of her life; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby congratulate Phyllis Kennedy on her retirement  
10 as minister of music from the Fellowship of Enlightenment and  
11 extend to her sincere best wishes for continued happiness and  
12 fulfillment; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for Ms. Kennedy as an expression of high regard by the  
15 Texas House of Representatives.