

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 217

In Memory  
of  
Paul W. Powell

**WHEREAS**, The life of an esteemed spiritual leader drew to a close with the passing of the Reverend Paul W. Powell on December 28, 2016, at the age of 83; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul Powell was born on December 6, 1933, and grew up in East Texas; called to the ministry at the age of 17, he earned degrees from Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and went on to preach at churches in Belfalls, Troy, Taylor, and San Marcos; in 1972, he assumed the pulpit at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, where he guided the congregation for nearly two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the years, Reverend Powell held a number of offices with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, including a term as president from 1985 to 1987, and he also served as president and chief executive officer of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board; he subsequently accepted a position as dean of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University, which more than doubled its enrollment and saw its endowment grow to more than \$38 million during his six-year tenure; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Powell's many achievements and contributions were recognized with Distinguished Alumnus accolades from Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and with honorary degrees from Baylor, East Texas Baptist University, Campbell University, Dallas Baptist University, and the University

of Mary Hardin-Baylor; he also received Baylor's Herbert H. Reynolds Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Additionally, Reverend Powell authored 36 books, and he gave generously of his time and talents to the boards of Southside Bank, the Robert M. Rogers Foundation, and Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler; he also enjoyed playing softball and basketball on church teams; and

**WHEREAS**, In all his endeavors, he enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Cathy, and he took tremendous pride in their three children, Kent, Mike, and Lori, and their grandchildren, Jordan, Katie, and Matthew; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul Powell truly exemplified the highest standards of his vocation, and he leaves behind a legacy of good works that will long be remembered; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Reverend Paul W. Powell and extend sincere condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the Reverend Paul W. Powell.

Hughes

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 21, 2017, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate