86R15903 JGH-D

By:  White H.R. No. 694

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Reverend Ray Charles Lewis of Faith Temple Church of God in Christ in Jasper has been named an Outstanding Texan by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Born in Jasper in 1961 to the late J. Harvey Lewis and Fayetta Adams Lewis, Reverend Lewis graduated from Jasper High School and went on to attend Panola College in Carthage, where he excelled in mathematics and helped tutor other students in the subject; and

WHEREAS, Called to the ministry in 1982 and licensed in 1983, Reverend Lewis has been the pastor of Faith Temple Church in his hometown since 1984; he was ordained in 1985 at Evangel Temple Church of God in Christ in Houston; in 1999, he oversaw the planning, design, and construction of a new sanctuary at his church, and he is working on plans for a 10,000-square-foot family center; moreover, he started the Warm Hands & Gentle Hearts Food Pantry in 2002, and he and his congregation provided food and shelter to those displaced by Hurricanes Rita and Ike; and

WHEREAS, An entrepreneur as well as a man of God, Reverend Lewis owns a trucking company, LORD Lewis & Coleman LLC, and the Lewis Timber & Land Company, Inc.; he has also served his community as president of the local chapter of the NAACP, and he has worked with local law enforcement officials to help calm difficult situations; in addition, he has been active with the Jasper Independent School District in assessing the need for a new intermediate school; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Reverend Lewis benefits from the love and support of his wife, Janett Lewis, his children, Rashad, Kimpton, Kimberly, Anthony, and Anetra, and his eight grandchildren, Joshua, Courtland, Landon, Jace, Zoë, Avery, Riley, and Aubree; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 35 years, Reverend Lewis has led his church with conviction, compassion, and skill and made a significant contribution to the quality of life in his community, and he is truly deserving of this special recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the Reverend Ray Charles Lewis on his receipt of an Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Reverend Lewis as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.