

By: White

H.R. No. 714

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, David Nugent is retiring as senior pastor of
2 Hillcrest Baptist Church in Jasper on April 25, 2021, drawing to a
3 close nearly a half century of distinguished service in the
4 ministry; and

5 WHEREAS, Since assuming the pulpit of Hillcrest Baptist
6 Church in 1996, Pastor Nugent has demonstrated visionary leadership
7 in overseeing expansion projects, including the congregation's
8 relocation to a new campus in 1999 and the construction of its
9 7,200-square-foot Family Life Center and a recreational field in
10 2002; furthermore, in 2010, the church acquired an adjoining piece
11 of property, which is now known as Hillcrest-East, and it has
12 purchased two trailers for use in disaster relief efforts; and

13 WHEREAS, Hillcrest has seen a dramatic rise in membership and
14 Sunday school attendance under the direction of Pastor Nugent,
15 along with the growth of its ministerial and support staff, its
16 education and youth programs, and its bivocational music ministry;
17 during his tenure, Hillcrest has also led the Sabine Valley Baptist
18 Association in baptisms; and

19 WHEREAS, Pastor Nugent was licensed in the ministry in 1973,
20 and he was ordained on September 16, 1979, at Central Baptist Church
21 in Monroe, Louisiana, where he was associate pastor from 1977 to
22 1981; he went on to serve as pastor at First Baptist Church in Lone
23 Pine, Louisiana, New Zion Baptist Church in Oak Grove, Louisiana,
24 and First Baptist Church in Spurger, Texas, before moving to

1 Jasper; and

2 WHEREAS, Through the years, Pastor Nugent has held leadership
3 roles with the Sabine Valley Baptist, New Bethel Baptist, Bayou
4 Macon-Madison Baptist, and Louisiana Baptist Associations; he
5 earned a speech education degree from Louisiana College and a
6 master's degree in theology from the Freelandia Institute; and

7 WHEREAS, Over the course of his exemplary career, Pastor
8 David Nugent has tirelessly dedicated himself to the spiritual
9 well-being of his congregants, and he has earned the lasting
10 respect and admiration of all who know him; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
12 Legislature hereby congratulate David Nugent on his retirement as
13 senior pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church and extend to him sincere
14 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Pastor Nugent as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.