

By: Collier

H.R. No. 120

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The members of Greater Saint Mark Ministries in Fort  
2 Worth joined together on September 8, 2023, to honor Bishop  
3 Dr. Mark D. Kirkland for his five decades in the ministry; and

4           WHEREAS, A spiritual leader from a young age, Dr. Kirkland  
5 was ordained as a minister during his junior year of high school; he  
6 became the third senior pastor of Greater Saint Mark Missionary  
7 Baptist Church in February 1997, and under his able leadership, the  
8 church became a nondenominational body known as Greater Saint Mark  
9 Ministries; in 2006, he cofounded Rehoboth Fellowship  
10 International, and he currently serves that organization as chief  
11 presiding prelate; in addition, he received his Episcopal  
12 ordination and consecration as a bishop on September 29, 2007; over  
13 the years, he has participated in several missions to provide  
14 supplies and financial aid to families and communities in African  
15 countries; and

16           WHEREAS, Dr. Kirkland previously attended Southern Bible  
17 Institute and Saint Leo College in Georgia; in 2010, he obtained a  
18 doctoral degree in theology from Trinity International Seminary in  
19 Dallas, where he also served as president for four years; he was  
20 presented with an honorary doctor of divinity from Grace  
21 International Seminary in Dallas; and

22           WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty, Dr. Kirkland  
23 served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1983 to 2004; he has been  
24 involved in a number of boards and civic organizations, including

1 the Genesis Way Foundation, the Young Ministers Coalition of  
2 Greater Atlanta, the Fireball Express, Umoja, and the Dunbar Young  
3 Men's Leadership Academy Site Base Management Team; moreover, he  
4 has served as a chaplain for the Texas Department of Corrections,  
5 and he has contributed to a wide range of community service  
6 projects, events, and relief efforts; and

7 WHEREAS, Bishop Dr. Mark Kirkland has long set an inspiring  
8 example of faith in action, and the members of his congregation have  
9 greatly benefited from his wise counsel and spiritual guidance;  
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
12 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby congratulate Bishop  
13 Dr. Mark D. Kirkland on his 50th anniversary in the ministry and  
14 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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