

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 79

WHEREAS, The members of New Hope Baptist Church in Big Sandy are gathering on September 14, 2025, to celebrate the 170th anniversary of their church's founding; and

WHEREAS, New Hope Baptist traces its origins to September 22, 1855, when a group of 15 charter members organized the church under the guidance of Elders Thomas Willingham, Wm. B. Mathis, Jon. O. J. Davis, and P. K. Wilson; the congregation met in a one-room log house before a new sanctuary was constructed in 1883; that structure was dismantled and relocated to the Crossroads community in 1914, and in December 1950, the church was deeded land for the construction of a new building at its present site on State Highway 155; and

WHEREAS, Through the years, New Hope Baptist has benefited from the able leadership of a number of outstanding pastors, and today that tradition of service is continued by Pastor Ernest Graham; under his direction, the congregation continues to play a vital role in the community, providing its members with myriad opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and outreach; and

WHEREAS, New Hope Baptist Church has long served as a source of inspiration and guidance to those who worship there, and it is a pleasure to join in recognizing this venerable religious institution at this special time in its rich history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commemorate the 170th

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anniversary of New Hope Baptist Church and extend to its members sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable celebration; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the church as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on September 4, 2025.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate