

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 79

R E S O L U T I O N

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

4 WHEREAS, New Hope Baptist traces its origins to September 22,
5 1855, when a group of 15 charter members organized the church under
6 the guidance of Elders Thomas Willingham, Wm. B. Mathis,
7 Jon. O. J. Davis, and P. K. Wilson; the congregation met in a
8 one-room log house before a new sanctuary was constructed in 1883;
9 that structure was dismantled and relocated to the Crossroads
10 community in 1914, and in December 1950, the church was deeded land
11 for the construction of a new building at its present site on State
12 Highway 155; and

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

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

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature, 2nd

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1 Called Session, hereby commemorate the 170th anniversary of New
2 Hope Baptist Church and extend to its members sincere best wishes
3 for a meaningful and memorable celebration; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas
6 Senate.