

By: Y. Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 293

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Over the past 40 years, Pastor Clarence O. Preston
2 of Beth Eden Baptist Church in Dallas has wholeheartedly dedicated
3 himself to his calling in the ministry; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Terrell, Clarence Preston earned his
5 bachelor's degree in sociology and religion from Jarvis Christian
6 College in Hawkins in 1993, and he went on to receive master's
7 degrees in Christian leadership from Criswell College in Dallas in
8 1998 and in education administration from Texas A&M
9 University-Commerce in 2000; in the years that followed, he
10 furthered his religious education by obtaining a master of divinity
11 degree in pastoral counseling from Liberty University in Lynchburg,
12 Virginia, a doctor of ministry degree from Houston Graduate School
13 of Theology, and a Ph.D. in Biblical studies from Midwestern
14 Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Preston previously led the congregations of
16 Goodwill Baptist Church of Greenville and El Bethel Baptist Church
17 of Waxahachie, prior to assuming the pastorate of Beth Eden Baptist
18 Church in 2007; during his time as the church's pastor, he has
19 provided invaluable guidance to his congregation and the wider
20 community; and

21 WHEREAS, In addition to meeting the needs of his church,
22 Pastor Preston has served his denomination as a member of the Oak
23 Cliff Baptist Ministers Union, the Southern Baptist Convention, and
24 the National Missionary Baptist Convention; he also holds

1 membership in the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and he
2 previously served as an assistant professor of religion at Jarvis
3 Christian University and as a trustee for Criswell College; he is
4 the author of two books, *The Priesthood of All Believers: Uplifting*
5 *All Members* and *How to Make it Last Forever: Marriage from a*
6 *Christian Perspective*; and

7 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Pastor Preston enjoys the love
8 and support of his wife, Charles Etta Dorsey Preston; the couple are
9 the parents of two children, Xavier and Charisma, and are further
10 blessed with a granddaughter, Imani; and

11 WHEREAS, Pastor Clarence O. Preston has inspired and uplifted
12 countless people throughout his exemplary career in the ministry,
13 and it is indeed a pleasure to join in recognizing this esteemed
14 clergyman for his notable achievements; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Clarence O. Preston on his 40th
17 pastoral anniversary and extend to him sincere best wishes for
18 continued success with his important work; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Dr. Preston as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.