

By: King

S.R. No. 49

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the passing of Pastor Curtis Jefferson Jr. of
3 Weatherford on November 10, 2024, at the age of 79; and

4 WHEREAS, Curtis Jefferson was born to Curtis Jefferson Sr.
5 and Pearlie Thomas-Jefferson on February 1, 1945, in Wortham, and
6 he grew up with the companionship of five siblings, Ruby, Chrissie,
7 Margaret, Sandra, and Willie; after graduating from the F. W.
8 Wheeler School for African American students, where he
9 distinguished himself as an outstanding athlete and salutatorian of
10 his class, he went on to attend Navarro Junior College, becoming the
11 school's first Black basketball player; and

12 WHEREAS, On March 17, 1962, Mr. Jefferson exchanged wedding
13 vows with the former Sarah Jean Thomas, and they shared a fulfilling
14 marriage that spanned more than five decades before her passing;
15 together, the couple raised four children, Paula, Douglas, Darla,
16 and Patrick, and through the years, Mr. Jefferson had the pleasure
17 of seeing his family grow to include two grandchildren and a
18 great-granddaughter; and

19 WHEREAS, Beginning in 1973, Mr. Jefferson worked for Gulf
20 South Pipeline in Wortham and then for Chevron Pipe Line in
21 Weatherford, spending 34 years with the companies; in 1987, he
22 embarked on a distinguished career in the ministry, establishing
23 New Hope Baptist Church in Weatherford as founding pastor; he
24 served as the church's only pastor for three and a half decades

1 until his retirement in 2022, and he preached at other area churches
2 as well; civically engaged, he gave generously of his time to a
3 number of boards and committees, including the Weatherford College
4 Foundation Board, and he also coached youth sports; among many
5 accolades, he received the Earl King Award from the Christian Men's
6 Fellowship of Parker County, and the Weatherford City Council
7 proclaimed March 27, 2022, as Pastor Curtis Jefferson Day in his
8 honor; and

9 WHEREAS, Deeply dedicated to his family, his faith, and his
10 community, Curtis Jefferson earned the lasting respect and
11 admiration of all who were privileged to know him; now, therefore,
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature
14 hereby pay tribute to the memory of Pastor Curtis Jefferson Jr. and
15 extend heartfelt condolences to the members of his family: to his
16 children, Paula Jefferson-Gratts, Douglas Jefferson, and Patrick
17 Jefferson; to his grandchildren, Nicole Jefferson-Theriot and her
18 husband, Zach, and Andrianna Jefferson-Polk; to his
19 great-granddaughter, Olivia Jean Theriot; to his sister-in-law,
20 Jewell Maddox; to his brothers-in-law, Robert Young and Pastor
21 Cecil Crutchfield; to his aunt, Lillie Thomas; and to his other
22 relatives and friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
25 day, it do so in memory of Curtis Jefferson.