

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 153

BY REPRESENTATIVE DIXON

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Reverend Jim Wheatley for thirty-five years of faithful Christian service as pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Alexandria.

WHEREAS, Jim Wheatley was born on April 3, 1932, to Joe and Wretha Wheatley, the youngest of a large family; and

WHEREAS, "Big Jim" grew up in Winnsboro, and his size and athletic prowess garnered a spot for him on Grambling State University's baseball team; and

WHEREAS, while Big Jim was employed at Holsum Bakery, where he worked for seventeen years, he received the call in 1973 to pastoral service at Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church and shepherded the Pilgrim flock for five years; and

WHEREAS, it pleased God to send Reverend Wheatley to New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in 1978, where he faithfully and dutifully carried out the responsibilities assigned to him as shepherd of the New Hope flock for thirty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Wheatley freely shared his gift of helps in venues outside the four walls of the church by working at Pinecrest Developmental Center in Alexandria, serving as chaplain at Huey P. Long Medical Center in Alexandria, and through active involvement as a member of the Old Eighth Association; and

WHEREAS, by teaching Bible classes in the Louisiana Baptist State Convention, Reverend Wheatley imparted his knowledge of God's Word to people throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Wheatley's lifelong mission of service to God will culminate on June 2, 2013, at a retirement celebration at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, and it is appropriate to recognize this man of God for his long and effective pastorship.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Reverend Jim Wheatley upon the

occasion of his retirement after thirty-five years of service as pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Alexandria and does hereby extend to him best wishes as he embarks upon the next stage of his spiritual life as pastor emeritus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Reverend Jim Wheatley.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES