

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 220

BY REPRESENTATIVES NORTON AND GLOVER

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Reverend Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., upon his retirement after thirty-eight years of pastoral service at New Boggy Baptist Church in Bethany, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., has been abundantly blessed with gifts that have allowed him to serve God, his family, his country through duty in the United States Marine Corps, and students at Southern University at Shreveport as professor and chair of the Social Sciences Department; and

WHEREAS, more than forty years ago, Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., felt the call of God upon his life; he confessed his call to the ministry in February 1973 at Mount Canaan Baptist Church in Shreveport and began to labor in the vineyard for the Lord; he organized and provided leadership for one of the largest Baptist Training Union programs in the state, which focused on unpacking the scriptures and delineating what God requires of born-again believers; and

WHEREAS, opportunities to increase the biblical knowledge of believers multiplied with the diligent study and commitment of the Reverend Hamilton; he was an assistant to the preaching ministry on second Sundays at St. Mary Baptist Church, and on fourth Sundays, he was tasked with supporting the preaching ministry at Calvary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, equipped with pastoral care knowledge from his ministerial responsibilities at several churches, New Boggy Baptist Church elected the Reverend Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., as its eleventh pastor in 1980; their election was sure, as demonstrated by the Reverend Hamilton's thirty-eight year tenure; he is the longest-serving pastor in the church's one hundred forty-nine year existence and has had the unique experience of shepherding

succeeding generations of his family; his children have grown up, married, and had children, and his grandchildren attend Sunday morning worship services with him; and

WHEREAS, from the early days of his life, the Reverend Hamilton has been in step with God's divine plan and is a steadfast believer in the words of Jeremiah 29:11-13: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart"; and

WHEREAS, as the Reverend Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., retires from his duties of pastoral care and embarks upon the next stage of his life, it is fitting to acknowledge his faithful leadership of thirty-eight years as pastor of New Boggy Baptist Church and to salute Pastor Hamilton for answering God's call to shepherd His flock.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express hearty congratulations to the Reverend Lonnie Hamilton, Jr., upon his retirement as pastor of New Boggy Baptist Church of Bethany and does hereby offer sincere prayers and hopes that the Lord will bless him and keep him, make His face to shine upon him, be gracious to him, lift up His countenance upon him, and give him peace in his leisure years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Reverend Lonnie Hamilton, Jr.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES