

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 634

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Dr. Jim Tedder upon the occasion of his fiftieth anniversary as pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Shelbyville.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious figures who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jim Tedder, pastor of Victory Baptist Church, is one such estimable individual, who has inspired the congregation with his faith and leadership for half a century; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tedder declared his Christian faith at the age of sixteen and committed himself to a life of preaching just one year later; and

WHEREAS, beginning at the age of twenty, the promising young pastor grew the church from a quaint nineteen-member congregation to over 1,500 members today with an average of 450 attendees every Sunday; and

WHEREAS, situated on twenty-two breathtaking acres on Highway 231 North in Shelbyville, Victory Baptist Church has undergone two major building programs, resulting in the current 32,000-square-foot house of worship; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Jim Tedder's leadership, the church established the Victory Baptist Academy, which they have maintained for thirty-five years, launched a bus ministry program that has served several thousands of children and families, and supported over 100 missionaries with \$2 million in charitable funds; and

WHEREAS, a Doctor of Divinity graduate from Florida Bible College, Dr. Tedder has dedicated his life to the Christian cause, preaching on a daily radio program, "The Voice of Victory" for forty-nine years, serving as vice-president of the Japan for Jesus Board of

Pensacola, and currently acting as president of “Funds for India”, a program that provides support to native pastors and evangelists in India; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tedder is also deeply devoted to his family and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, his Christian stewardship derives much support from his loving wife, Barbara, his children, Denise and Rusty, his five grandchildren, and his two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are delighted to join in honoring this committed Christian and dynamic leader in the realm of the church and civic life — an eminent citizen of Tennessee and of his community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join with the members of Victory Baptist Church in honoring Dr. Jim Tedder for his life of continuing service to God and humanity, as well as to his community, State, and nation, commend him upon his fiftieth year as a pastor, and offer our best wishes for every continued success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.