

By: Representatives V. Flowers, F. Allen, E. Armstrong, Blake, K. Ferguson, Fielding, M. Hodges, Love, G. McGill, Murdock, Nicks, Walker

HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF REV. WILLIAM S. EASTER AND IN
RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Subtitle

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF REV. WILLIAM S.
EASTER AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, Reverend William S. Easter, born in Foreman, Arkansas, to Myrtis and Alberta Easter, died on February 13, 2018, at the age of sixty-eight (68) years; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Easter graduated from Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas; he also attended the University of Central Arkansas for graduate studies and received an honorary doctorate from Arkansas Baptist College; and

WHEREAS, he worked at the Centers for Youth and Families, Inc., for almost twenty (20) years, worked security at Philander Smith College for twelve (12) years, and served as a deputy sheriff for Pulaski County for ten (10) years; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Easter served as a deacon, a trustee, a teacher, and the superintendent of Sunday school at New Hebron Baptist Church and was called into the ministry in 1979; and



WHEREAS, Rev. Easter became pastor of Holy Cross Baptist Church in 1984, and under his extraordinary leadership, the church experienced tremendous growth and development; he led the church through several developments and the construction of the William S. Easter Educational Building; and he guided the church in the purchasing and development of housing for redevelopment for a food pantry, a clothing closet, and other properties for low-income housing; and

WHEREAS, his passion for social and political issues allowed him to serve his community in several ways, including serving on various boards and commissions and playing a vital role in the redevelopment of the 12th Street community; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Easter served as an instructor in the Union District Baptist Association, vice moderator and moderator of Union District; while serving as Moderator, Union District was often recognized for its progressive programs and strategies; he served as statistician and vice president for the Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention of Arkansas, large-group facilitator for the National Baptist Convention Sunday School Publishing Board Christian Education Conference, and treasurer of the E.C. Morris Institute and Little Rock Simultaneous Revival; he received numerous awards for outstanding service; and he was a Spirit-led visionary and a humble servant to his congregation and his community; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Easter leaves to cherish his humble spirit, his unshakable faith in God, his resilience to his church, his strong work ethic, and his strong values as a husband, father, and grandfather; his loving wife, Lorene, of Little Rock, Arkansas; their four (4) children, Derick (Keely), Craig (Kirestin), Gregg (Aundra), and Kristian, all of Little Rock; his twelve (12) grandchildren, all of Little Rock; six (6) surviving siblings; and a host of aunts, uncles, relatives, and friends,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives remember and commend Reverend William S. Easter for his contributions to the State of Arkansas and his local community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the House of Representatives hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Rev. Easter, and upon adoption of this resolution, that an appropriate copy be provided to the family of Rev. Easter by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.