

By: Senator Stone

## SENATE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND THE DEDICATED PASTORS, LEADERS, AND TEACHERS OF THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST SEMINARY AND INSTITUTE, BOTH PAST AND PRESENT, FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND GUIDANCE THAT HAS LED THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST SEMINARY AND INSTITUTE TO THE CELEBRATION OF ITS NINETIETH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION.

### Subtitle

TO COMMEND THE DEDICATED PASTORS, LEADERS, AND TEACHERS OF THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST SEMINARY AND INSTITUTE, BOTH PAST AND PRESENT, FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND GUIDANCE THAT HAS LED TO THE NINETIETH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

WHEREAS, the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute, a vision of Dr. Benjamin M. Bogard, pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, located at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Brown St., in Little Rock, Arkansas, opened for classes in October of 1934 with twenty-six (26) students and a stated purpose of educating Missionary Baptist preachers and Christian workers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. L.D. Foreman (1947-1966), a new building became a reality and was constructed at 3310 Asher Avenue in Little Rock, and the organization received certification to accept veterans' benefits to enroll veteran students and certification to provide immigration and naturalization services to enroll foreign students; and



WHEREAS, during the tenure of Dr. John E. Owen (1973-1986), new apartments, school buildings, and dormitories were constructed, and the school was chartered by the State of Arkansas to grant an Associate Degree in Bible and Bachelor, Masters, and Doctorates in Bible Languages and Theology; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. Roger Copeland (2019-present), the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute continues to strive for excellence, ambitious plans are in motion to construct a new building, and property has been obtained in Saline County, symbolizing a future of expansion and innovation; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Senate wish to join Senator Matthew Stone in commending the dedicated pastors, leaders, and teachers of the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute, both past and present, for their leadership and guidance that has led this institution to the celebration of its ninetieth anniversary of operation,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate commend the dedicated pastors, leaders, and teachers of the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute, both past and present, for their leadership and guidance that has led the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute to the celebration of its ninetieth year anniversary of operation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, a copy be provided to the Missionary Baptist Seminary and Institute by the Secretary of the Senate.