

1 SJR132
2 121061-1
3 By Senator Preuitt
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 01-APR-10

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7
8 COMMENDING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLADEGA,
9 ALABAMA.

10
11 WHEREAS, it is a great pleasure to extend highest
12 commendation to the venerable First Baptist Church of
13 Talladega, Alabama, in recognition of its distinguished
14 history; and

15 WHEREAS, established May 31, 1835, with ten charter
16 members, the church grew substantially in membership and
17 services over the past 175 years and in 2010 had a total
18 membership of more than 600; and

19 WHEREAS, among the church's early outstanding
20 events, the Alabama Baptist Convention met in the Talladega
21 church in 1841 and agreed to the establishment of a college
22 (Howard College, now Samford University) which was chartered
23 in 1841 and opened in January 1842 in Marion, Alabama, later
24 relocating to Birmingham; additional milestones were recorded
25 when the Alabama Baptist Convention again met with the
26 Talladega church in 1857, 1878, 1888, and 1906; and

1 WHEREAS, in February 1932, the church moved to its
2 current location on North Street, and the first worship
3 services were held in the present sanctuary in December 1948,
4 with the three-story education space being added in 1962; and

5 WHEREAS, the church has been faithfully shepherded
6 by 23 ministers, devoted servants of God who were called to
7 lead the congregation; in addition, the church has ordained
8 more than 22 men who have served the gospel ministry across
9 the state and nation and internationally; and

10 WHEREAS, since its founding, the First Baptist
11 Church of Talladega has been actively engaged in outreach,
12 establishing three mission churches that became full-time:
13 Central Baptist Church, October 1902; Southside Baptist
14 Church, February 1954; and Northside Baptist Church, May 1955;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, in 1875, the Women's Missionary Society was
17 founded, providing education through youth and children's
18 programs and leading the church to participate in worldwide as
19 well as state mission offerings; three women have served as
20 career missionaries overseas: Gladys Hopewell, China; Jane
21 Ellen Gaines, Africa; and Edith Nunnelley Langston, Africa;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, through the years, the First Baptist Church
24 of Talladega has been a beacon of faith and a pillar of
25 spiritual strength for its congregation and far beyond; now
26 therefore,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
2 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of its
3 distinguished 175-year history, the venerable First Baptist
4 Church of Talladega is honored and commended, and this
5 resolution is offered in highest tribute to its dedicated
6 leaders and devout membership, on behalf of the citizens of
7 the State of Alabama.