

1 HR923
2 132954-1
3 By Representatives Merrill and Poole
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 09-JUN-11

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8 COMMENDING FOREST LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH FOR COMMUNITY
9 SERVICE AND INSPIRATION FOLLOWING THE APRIL 27, 2011,
10 TORNADOES.

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12 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and pleasure that we
13 recognize the contributions and service of Forest Lake Baptist
14 Church to the Tuscaloosa area and this entire state; and

15 WHEREAS, the storms and tornadoes that ravaged our
16 state on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, caused unprecedented
17 levels of destruction to property as well as the loss of the
18 lives of many Alabamians; and

19 WHEREAS, located in the heart of the tornado's path,
20 Forest Lake Baptist Church suffered extensive damage to its
21 facilities, yet its members put aside their own suffering to
22 reach out through the carnage to minister and serve survivors,
23 first responders, and other relief workers from numerous
24 states; and

25 WHEREAS, within two days after the terrible storm,
26 church members and staff established an extensive ministry
27 center in its basement to facilitate efforts to provide canned

1 food, water, hot meals, baby supplies, clothing, bedding,
2 cleaning supplies, books, furniture, and even pet food to
3 those in need; and

4 WHEREAS, out-of-state volunteers quickly utilized
5 Forest Lake's location as a headquarters for humanitarian
6 services, with volunteers from Mississippi providing hot dog
7 meals out of a trailer and volunteers from Florida
8 distributing barbecue sandwiches in the parking lot of the
9 church, and it became a repository for relief donations, with
10 its rooms overflowing with food and other provisions donated
11 from many locations throughout the nation; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to these significant
13 contributions to the physical needs of community members
14 during this difficult time, Forest Lake Baptist Church has met
15 the spiritual needs of those affected by the tornado's wrath,
16 and it has instilled in adults and children alike a generous
17 spirit of volunteerism and service, an invaluable gift and
18 legacy which will provide a positive and lasting influence on
19 the Tuscaloosa area and this entire state; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
21 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby most highly commend
22 the Forest Lake Baptist Church for its extensive community
23 service and inspiration, and by copy of this resolution we
24 extend our sincere gratitude and best wishes for future
25 success in all endeavors.