

1 SJR70  
2 191730-1  
3 By Senator Ward  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 15-FEB-18

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8                   COMMEMORATING THE BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH ON ITS  
9 150TH ANNIVERSARY ON MAY 27, 2018.

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11                   WHEREAS, it is a time of great rejoicing for the  
12 pastor and congregation of Bethlehem Baptist Church located in  
13 Centreville, Alabama, on celebrating a Sesquicentennial  
14 Anniversary, a significant milestone that represents a  
15 time-honored tradition of service for the glorious Kingdom of  
16 God; and

17                   WHEREAS, Bethlehem Baptist Church traces its roots  
18 to 1868, when the settlers of the community began holding  
19 worship services in the schoolhouse; after a week of hosting  
20 evangelistic services, the number of those gathering to praise  
21 the Lord increased to 29, a number high enough to provide  
22 reason to establish a church; the pioneer settlers chose the  
23 Reverend S. V. McGinnis as the first pastor, and he named the  
24 church Bethlehem; and

25                   WHEREAS, the first church was built near the  
26 schoolhouse from logs at the cost of \$2.00; years later, it  
27 was torn down and replaced with a frame building; in 1936, the

1 church was rebuilt for a third time on a site that remains the  
2 current place of worship; and

3 WHEREAS, Bethlehem Baptist Church has positively  
4 impacted countless lives and will continue to serve as a  
5 beacon of light and a pillar of faith for those within the  
6 community; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we commend and congratulate  
9 the Bethlehem Baptist Church, and its pastor, Reverend Thomas  
10 A. Conroy, and his congregation on the occasion of the  
11 church's 150th Anniversary, and by copy of this resolution,  
12 wish them success in all future endeavors.