

1 HR35  
2 215628-1  
3 By Representative Alexander  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-NOV-21

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8 COMMENDING WHEELING CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
9 ON ITS 128TH ANNIVERSARY.

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11 WHEREAS, we take great pride and pleasure in  
12 commending Wheeling Chapel Missionary Baptist Church on the  
13 occasion of its 128th Anniversary, which was celebrated on  
14 October 24, 2021; and

15 WHEREAS, the Wheeling Chapel Missionary Baptist  
16 Church was organized in 1893, in Wheeling, Alabama, by  
17 Reverend P.Y. Molden; Brothers James Edwards, James Anderson,  
18 and Jim Beckham were the first Deacons; a short time later,  
19 Reverend Scott Stevens became pastor; he died in 1894, and was  
20 succeeded by Reverend P.S. Simpson, who was later succeeded by  
21 Reverend Watson Bryant; the church members moved to Turpin,  
22 Alabama, a small community known as Beckham Town, which is now  
23 known as Lipscomb, Alabama; Reverend W.H. Jenkins succeeded  
24 Reverend Bryant as pastor; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1904, Reverend D. Reed was called as  
26 pastor; in 1905, Reverend M.W. Lewis became pastor and served  
27 for three years; Reverend Sylvester Jones became pastor in

1 1909; Reverend L.J. Hendrix served for one month in 1910, and  
2 then Reverend C.H. Hopkins was called; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1946, Reverend W.M. Hunter was called to  
4 pastor Wheeling Chapel and served for 14 years; and

5 WHEREAS, in the late 1950s, it was decided that a  
6 new building was needed with modern facilities such as indoor  
7 plumbing, gas, and heating; in 1959, the new building, which  
8 is the church's current location, was erected; and

9 WHEREAS, 1961 brought a change in leadership to  
10 Reverend W.W. Jones when the brotherhood called him after the  
11 departure of Reverend Hunter; and

12 WHEREAS, Reverend W.W. Jones served for 43 years;  
13 the accomplishment of a newly renovated church was realized  
14 under his leadership; because of his failing health, Reverend  
15 Ronald Smith served as his Assistant Pastor from 2000 to 2004;  
16 in 2005, Reverend Smith was elected as the new pastor; he  
17 retired in June of 2016, and Pastor Vincent Witt was selected  
18 to lead the congregation, and continues to serve Wheeling  
19 Chapel Missionary Baptist Church as pastor; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
21 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the Wheeling Chapel  
22 Missionary Baptist Church is honored and commended on the  
23 occasion of celebration its 128th Anniversary, and this  
24 resolution is offered in highest tribute to its devout members  
25 and dedicated leaders, along with best wishes for the future.