

1 SJR7  
2 215490-3  
3 By Senators Beasley, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Butler,  
4 Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott, Figures,  
5 Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones, Livingston, Marsh,  
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier,  
7 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnuttt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 02-NOV-21

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8 HONORING THE REVEREND WILLIAM LAMAR BROWN FOR 55  
9 YEARS IN THE MINISTRY AND RECOGNIZING BILL BROWN DAY ON  
10 NOVEMBER 21, 2021.  
11

12 WHEREAS, after 55 years in the ministry, the  
13 Reverend William Lamar Brown is retiring; he will step into  
14 the pulpit Sunday, November 7, 2021, at the 11:00 a.m. service  
15 to officially preach his last sermon as Pastor of Clayton  
16 Baptist Church; and

17 WHEREAS, Clayton Baptist Church has proclaimed  
18 Sunday, November 21, 2021, as Bill Brown Day and will be  
19 honoring Reverend Brown during the morning worship service at  
20 11:00 a.m; festivities will follow the morning service with a  
21 covered dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall; Kel Little,  
22 Chairman of the Deacons, states, "We invite everyone to come  
23 join us in our honoring Bro. Bill who has served our church  
24 and community faithfully for so many years"; and

25 WHEREAS, Reverend Brown was born and reared in  
26 Grenada, Mississippi; he was called to the ministry in 1965 at  
27 the age of 17 and was licensed by his home church, Hebron

1 Baptist Church, on August 14, 1966; he served as a summer  
2 missionary to Indian tribes in Montana; and

3 WHEREAS, while at Samford University in Birmingham,  
4 Alabama, he served as Music Director for Boys' Industrial  
5 School and took part on revival teams; he graduated from  
6 Samford University in May 1970; and

7 WHEREAS, in the summer of 1970, Reverend Brown  
8 joined Clayton Baptist Church as Youth Director; he was  
9 ordained by Clayton Baptist Church and began studies at  
10 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth,  
11 Texas; he received his Master of Divinity from Southwestern in  
12 December 1973; each summer while at Southwestern, he returned  
13 to Clayton Baptist Church to serve as its Youth Director; and

14 WHEREAS, after graduating from Southwestern, he  
15 returned to Clayton to serve as Youth Director and Minister of  
16 Music and served for five years prior to taking a pastorate  
17 position at Maplesville Baptist Church in 1978, where he  
18 served until 1983; and

19 WHEREAS, for seven years, Reverend Brown and his  
20 family were in Togoi, West Africa, where he was a church  
21 planter before returning to Clayton in 1991; at that time, he  
22 began working as a counselor at Ventress Correctional Facility  
23 and as Minister of Music at Clayton Baptist Church; and

24 WHEREAS, in 1999, Reverend Brown began serving as  
25 Pastor of Clayton Baptist Church; during his time as Pastor,  
26 he has made short mission trips back to Africa and taught

1 Sunday School and weekly classes at Ventress Correctional  
2 Facility in Clayton; and

3 WHEREAS, he is married to the former Josephine "Jo"  
4 Brown of Clayton and is the father of three sons, Chris Brown  
5 of Birmingham, Josh Brown (Anna) of Mississippi, and Jeremy  
6 Brown (Susan) of Clayton; he has six grandchildren, Caitlyn,  
7 Caleb, Abbie, Ayden, Audrey Anna, and Anderson; now therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
9 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Reverend William Lamar Brown  
10 is highly honored for dedicating 55 years to serving in the  
11 ministry and that we recognize Bill Brown Day on November 21,  
12 2021; this resolution hereby serves as a tribute to him with  
13 warmest gratitude and admiration, along with sincere best  
14 wishes for continued happiness and success during his  
15 retirement.