

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1042

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION recognizing Pastor Dwight R. Montgomery.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those religious leaders in this State who dedicate their time and energies to serving their communities, their congregations, and this State; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dwight R. Montgomery, pastor of Annesdale Cherokee Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, is one such intrepid individual; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Montgomery graduated from Hamilton High School in 1968 and matriculated to Lane College, from which he graduated in 1972. During his years at Lane College, he served as a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and stood as president of the student government; and

WHEREAS, he has served as the pastor of Annesdale Cherokee Missionary Baptist since 1985, during which time he has led the church with acumen and alacrity, serving his congregation and the community with aplomb and unwavering dedication; and

WHEREAS, Annesdale Cherokee Missionary Baptist held its first service in its building on April 12, 1977. The church is named for the Cherokee community in which it sits; and

WHEREAS, since joining the congregation in 1985, Pastor Dwight Montgomery has led the church to great heights, and under his leadership, the church has eliminated its mortgage, adopted new fellowships and ministries, founded radio broadcasts, refurbished the interior and exterior, purchased new church vehicles, and increased its number of members, ministerial staff, deacons, and trustees; and

WHEREAS, the congregation will be forever indebted to Pastor Montgomery for his wise teaching, inspirational preaching, evangelistic efforts, and countless contributions; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dwight Montgomery heeded his calling in 1975, and before joining the congregation of Annesdale Cherokee Missionary Baptist, he served as pastor of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Montgomery is a leader within his community, and has been from a young age. He founded the Coalition of Benevolent Youth in 1974, was recognized by *Ebony Magazine* as an Outstanding Young Black Man in America, and served as a member of the Memphis Housing Authority board in a volunteer capacity for nine years, standing as chairman for two of those years; and

WHEREAS, he is the founder and chairman of the Faith-based Public Education Initiative, stands as chairman of the Educational Committee for the Memphis Baptist Ministerial Association, is the president of the Memphis chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and dedicates his time and energies to his role on the board of the Tennessee Justice Center; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dwight Montgomery is an upstanding member of his church and his community, and it is wholly fitting that he be recognized for his stalwart service to the Lord; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize Pastor Dwight R. Montgomery for his years of service in the pulpit of Annesdale Cherokee Missionary Baptist Church, applaud his commitment to serving his congregation, his community, and his God, and extend our best wishes for his continued success and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.