

2006 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 349

Offered February 20, 2006

Commending the Reverend Doctor Leonard N. Smith.

Patrons—Ebbin, Brink, Eisenberg and Englin; Senators: Ticer and Whipple

WHEREAS, the Reverend Doctor Leonard N. Smith, senior minister of Mount Zion Baptist Church, is recognized in 2006 for his 15 years of outstanding ministry and service to the residents of Arlington; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith was born in Baltimore, Maryland, raised in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and was heavily influenced by the positive moral and spiritual values of his grandmother and the other elders of his neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has over 30 years of ministerial experience and holds a master of divinity and a doctor of ministry degree; and

WHEREAS, over the course of Dr. Smith's impressive ministry, he has served as the pastor of Union Baptist Church in Gordonsville and Rivermont Baptist Church in Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 Dr. Smith became the devoted and respected pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Arlington; and as senior minister, he has identified and successfully implemented four divisions of ministry focus: Christian Education Ministry, Service Ministry and Organizations, Fellowship Ministry, and Worship Ministry; and

WHEREAS, since Dr. Smith's tenure, Mount Zion Baptist Church has grown from approximately 300 to 3,000 members, and he has touched the lives of countless people in the community; and

WHEREAS, some of the significant ministry programs initiated under Dr. Smith's superb leadership are the Computer Tech Ministry, the Health and Fitness Ministry, the Marriage Ministry, the Safety/Security Ministry, the Sign Language Ministry, the Single Adult Ministry, the Tutoring Ministry, and the Youth Ministry; and

WHEREAS, because of his vast experience and inspirational message, Dr. Smith has given his time and immense talent to many civic organizations; has served on numerous state boards and commissions; and has been a guest lecturer at several conventions and educational institutions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Reverend Doctor Leonard N. Smith for his 15 years of outstanding ministry and service to the congregation of Mount Zion Baptist Church; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Doctor Leonard N. Smith as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his dedication to the residents of Arlington.

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