

1 HR401  
2 118914-2  
3 By Representative Wren  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 23-FEB-10

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8 COMMENDING RIDGECREST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTGOMERY  
9 ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY.

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11 WHEREAS, it is a great pleasure to extend  
12 commendations and congratulations to Ridgecrest Baptist Church  
13 of Montgomery, Alabama, on the occasion of celebrating its  
14 60th Anniversary; and

15 WHEREAS, on November 6, 1949, several members of the  
16 First Baptist Church of Montgomery circulated an invitation in  
17 southern Montgomery, inviting residents "to be present and  
18 organize Ridgecrest Baptist Sunday School," and on March 5,  
19 1950, the Ridgecrest Baptist Church was constituted with 91  
20 charter members; and

21 WHEREAS, the church grew rapidly, developing a  
22 ministry that focused on the Sunday School, and in 1958,  
23 Ridgecrest led the State of Alabama in baptisms, reporting  
24 more than 100 baptisms a year from 1953-1958; and

25 WHEREAS, population shifts in the 1970s led the  
26 church to purchase property on Vaughn Road in east Montgomery,

1 and groundbreaking ceremonies were held in June 1976; one year  
2 later, the church moved into its present facility; an  
3 educational wing was added in the fall of 1980; as growth  
4 continued both spiritually and numerically, plans were  
5 formulated to build another addition providing more education  
6 space and a new Family Life Center, and on September 9, 1990,  
7 ground was broken for the new complex; and

8 WHEREAS, seven dedicated pastors have served the  
9 church during the past six decades: Reverend H. Richard Bills  
10 (1950-1951), Dr. John Bob Riddle (1951-1960), Reverend Lewis  
11 Marler (1960-1970), Reverend John Frank Lindsey (1970-1978),  
12 Reverend Charles B. Stroud (1979-1988), Dr. James M.  
13 Castleberry (1989-1998), Dr. Keith D. Warden (1999-present),  
14 and Dr. Michael Cassity (2005-present); and

15 WHEREAS, Ridgecrest Baptist Church now looks forward  
16 to serving God and mankind with a renewed sense of evangelism;  
17 now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
19 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Ridgecrest Baptist Church of  
20 Montgomery is honored and commended on the occasion of  
21 celebrating its 60th Anniversary on March 14, 2010, and this  
22 resolution is offered in tribute to the church along with  
23 heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the future.