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House Resolution 1950

By: Representatives Hightower of the 68<sup>th</sup>, Gravley of the 67<sup>th</sup>, Cooke of the 18<sup>th</sup>, and Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Phillip Steve Swafford on the occasion of his 20th
- 2 pastoral anniversary; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, Reverend Phillip Steve Swafford has demonstrated his commitment to teaching
- 4 the Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
- 5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Reverend Swafford was born on January 15, 1954, in Cedartown, Georgia, to
- 7 loving parents; his mother was a retired nurse and his father served as Polk County sheriff
- 8 for 20 years; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he surrendered to the call to preach when he was 17 years old; and
- 10 WHEREAS, his life journey took him to Cedar Bluff, Alabama, and Lindale and Roopville,
- 11 Georgia, where he served as pastor in each city; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Reverend Swafford was called by the Lord 20 years ago to lead the
- 13 congregation of Fullerville Baptist Church in Villa Rica, Georgia, as the church's senior
- 14 pastor; and
- 15 WHEREAS, his vision and direction have helped Fullerville Baptist Church grow in size and
- 16 influence, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a spiritual
- 17 leader and place for fellowship; and
- 18 WHEREAS, over the past two decades leading Fullerville Baptist Church, Reverend
- 19 Swafford has established numerous programs and workshops which have improved the
- 20 spiritual and educational growth of the church and the surrounding community; and

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21 WHEREAS, he works diligently in the community, having served on the Child Advocacy

- 22 Committee for Carroll County and worked with sports teams both in Central Schools in
- 23 Carrollton and Villa Rica Schools; and
- 24 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
- 25 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
- 26 humanitarian, Reverend Swafford serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and
- 27 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Reverend Swafford is a source
- 28 of strength and direction for persons in all walks of life and from all economic strata; and
- 29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
- 30 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
- 31 on behalf of persons in need.
- 32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 33 the members of this body congratulate Reverend Phillip Steve Swafford on the wonderful
- 34 occasion of his 20th pastoral anniversary and extend best wishes for many more years of
- 35 successful fellowship and leadership.
- 36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
- 38 Reverend Phillip Steve Swafford.