

House Resolution 202

By: Representatives Hugley of the 136th, Smyre of the 135th, Smith of the 134th, Pezold of the 133rd, and Buckner of the 137th

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the seeds which were sown by the loving and humble efforts of Reverend
4 Asburn Shivers and the devoted original worshipers of Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church
5 in 1863 under a grape arbor in an oak grove on the banks of the Chattahoochee River have
6 blossomed, establishing a rich tradition and history; and

7 WHEREAS, for the past 150 years, Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church has been led under
8 the guiding and spiritual hands of seven pastors, who have each seen the congregation grow
9 in size, which has allowed the Word of God to spread throughout the community; and

10 WHEREAS, under Reverend Walter A. Reid's leadership, the church established a brick
11 sanctuary and vacation Bible School, while Reverend J.J. Ivey was instrumental in
12 purchasing an organ and adding a kitchen; and

13 WHEREAS, in the 1960's and 1970's, Reverend Rudolph Allen added an education wing and
14 heating and central air, and in the 1980's Reverend James A. Lewis added a parking lot and
15 purchased a parsonage; and

16 WHEREAS, in later years, Reverend Tony Thompson, Jr., ordained five new deacons,
17 established a new member training class, and purchased a new van and piano; and

18 WHEREAS, Reverend Marcus Gibson was called to pastor Greater Shady Grove Baptist
19 church in 1998, and for over a decade, he has led the church to new heights with the creation
20 of new ministries and programs, the ordaining of several deacons, and substantially
21 improving the church's facilities; and

22 WHEREAS, Reverend Gibson has preached the Gospel throughout the nation and currently
23 serves as the vice president of the IMA and the dean of the Mt. Calvary Conference of
24 Christian Education; and

25 WHEREAS, over the last 150 years, this church has grown into a phenomenal place of
26 worship, uplifting the community of Columbus, Georgia, and serving as a spiritual leader and
27 place for fellowship; and

28 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by this church as it continues to grow
29 and lead people world wide to experience the fullness of their ordained destiny in Jesus
30 Christ is a source of strength and inspiration for all persons; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
32 of peace and love be recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body commend Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church on its 150th
35 anniversary and extend best wishes for continued growth and prosperity.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Greater Shady Grove
38 Baptist Church.