A RESOLUTION
To commend Reverend Charles T. Smith upon his retirement after fifty years of dedicated
and highly effective service as pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Baton
Rouge.

WHEREAS, upon his retirement as pastor, it is appropriate to commend and
celebrate Reverend Charles T. Smith for his remarkable term of devotion to God and the
congregation of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church and to extend to him sincere and heartfelt
appreciation; and

WHEREAS, since 1962, when he succeeded his father, Reverend Dudley T. Smith,
as pastor, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church has been guided with outstanding commitment
and dedicated leadership by Reverend Charles T. Smith, who has paved the way for the
leaders and members of the church to be graced with the blessings they enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of McKinley High School and Southern University, Pastor
Smith attended New Orleans Baptist Seminary and received his doctor of divinity degree
from Union Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, many positive developments, both spiritual and physical, have occurred
at the church under the long and productive pastorship of Reverend Smith, including but
certainly not limited to a vast physical expansion, the addition of a wide network of many
important ministries which meet the needs of the church's congregation and surrounding
community, and the creation of Shiloh's scholarship program, day care center, early learning
academy, charitable foundation, and credit union, among other worthy developments; and

WHEREAS, many meaningful and innovative programs have been initiated in the
Baton Rouge community under the leadership of Pastor Smith, including a summer youth
enrichment program, an indigent assistance program, and a drug abuse prevention program,
to name just a few; and
WHEREAS, Pastor Smith has been the most deserving recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Brotherhood Award from the National Conference for Community and Justice, the Phi Beta Sigma Humanitarian Jubilee Award, the Whitney Young Humanitarian Award, the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award, the Racial Justice Award from the Young Women's Christian Association, and the William J. Shaw Pastoral Ministry Award for fifty or more years in pastoral ministry from the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Smith has served his community in a wide variety of capacities, including serving as a board member of numerous entities, such as General Health Systems, the Baton Rouge Rotary Club, the Istrouma Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Young Leaders Academy, the Mid-City Redevelopment Alliance, and Volunteers in Public Schools, and he has also served as a member of the 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge and Alpha XI Boule' of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, among other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Smith also has shared his wisdom and knowledge in significant leadership positions with the Baptist Church on the state, regional, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many accomplishments as a religious leader, Pastor Smith played an important role in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, was the second African American to be invited to be a part of the Baton Rouge Rotary Club, and was a member of the citizens' task force that worked to bring about an amicable settlement with the local school desegregation lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Smith is married to Eula Vercher Smith, and together they are proud parents and grandparents; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Smith is widely respected and admired throughout his community and has touched the lives of countless people with his singular gifts and talents; and

WHEREAS, through God's kindness and mercy, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church thrives as a unified community, and members have the utmost trust that His grace will lead them on in harmony and thanksgiving as they celebrate Pastor Smith's honorable leadership and inspiration as a community of faith and fellowship.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Reverend Charles T. Smith upon his
retirement after fifty years of extraordinary service as pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, does hereby express sincere and heartfelt appreciation for his guidance of this loving and devoted church family for half a century, and does hereby extend to him and his family best wishes for full measures of success, happiness, and richest blessings in all of their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Reverend Charles T. Smith.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES