

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 102

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Nettie Rogers of
Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Rogers was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the founder of Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers radiated God's love and evinced the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the Lord's work and eager to better her community, Evangelist Rogers founded and chartered the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., in 1968 for the purpose of building spiritual and moral fiber, promoting Christian and public education, eliminating crime and juvenile delinquency, and reducing illiteracy through her signature program, "Back to Church School Crusade"; and

WHEREAS, for more than forty years, Evangelist Rogers and Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., provided exemplary and beneficial programs and community ventures, including: Operation Bread Basket, which provided breads and pastries to nursing homes and churches; a partnership with the Al Chymia Shrine to provide families with free tickets to the Shrine Circus; and Christmas baskets to hundreds of families in need; and

WHEREAS, well respected by her peers in both her community and profession, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers received numerous awards and accolades throughout the years from a vast multitude of religious and civic organizations, including the International Ministries Forum, Interdenominational Alliance, National Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Memphis

City Council, the National Association of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, the National Civil Rights Museum, and the April 4th Foundation; and

WHEREAS, a trail blazer and well renowned speaker and preacher, Evangelist Rogers was inducted into the Hall of Pulpit of the African American Museum of Memphis, the first and only woman so honored amongst eleven males; and

WHEREAS, most recently, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers was awarded the Ruby R. Wharton Outstanding Woman award in the area of youth and delinquency on February 15, 2009; she was previously honored in 2007 as a "Woman of Stamina"; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Rogers's outstanding career as a compassionate spiritual and civic leader was a direct result of her reliance on God's grace, her dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and her uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Rogers leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a woman of Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers's stature walks among us, and it is important that we pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Evangelist Rogers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.