

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 764

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Reverend Stanford L. Hunt upon his installation as pastor of the Salem Gilfield Baptist Church.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has been fortunate during its history to benefit from the outstanding leadership provided by those committed ministers of the Gospel who lead churches across this State and who, with their congregations, provide the bedrock strength that defines an orderly and just society; and

WHEREAS, one such dedicated pastor and church leader is Reverend Stanford L. Hunt, soon to be the newly installed pastor of Salem Gilfield Baptist Church in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, the grateful congregation of Salem Gilfield Baptist Church will honor Reverend Hunt during an installation ceremony and reception on May 6, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Hunt earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology and Psychology from American Baptist College in 1988 and furthered his theological studies at the Morehouse School of Religion, where he obtained his Master of Divinity and Psychology of Religion degree in Pastor Care and Clinical Pastoral Education in 1992; and

WHEREAS, for the past year, Reverend Hunt has stood as a shining example of love and forgiveness as he has tirelessly contributed his time and tremendous talents as the Interim Pastor of the Salem Gilfield Baptist Church, providing invaluable marriage, family, and youth counseling as well as teaching and preaching the Word during Sunday Services, Sunday School, and the mid-week Bible study class; and

WHEREAS, as the Assistant Minister of several churches in Tennessee and Georgia of varying congregational sizes, Reverend Hunt quickly established a well-deserved reputation as a brilliant evangelist with an ear inclined to listen for the voice of the Lord and a heart and mind to obey it; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Hunt has also served with grace and compassion as the Chaplin at Memorial Medical Center's Trauma Unit, working assiduously to provide hope and communicate God's love to staff, patients, and family members as they struggled to find answers during life's hardest moments; and

WHEREAS, as a Counselor at the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church in Memphis, Reverend Hunt lent his considerable wisdom and provided deep insights into the souls of countless citizens through his family and HIV/AIDS counseling ministries; and

WHEREAS, a deeply spiritual man who has used his education and personal faith to better his community, Reverend Hunt has held several distinguished positions in a variety of religious organizations, including serving as the Secretary for the Memphis Baptist Ministerial Association and a valued member of the African American Pastor's Consortium, National Progressive Baptist Convention, and National Baptist U.S.A., Inc.; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career as a religious leader and humble servant of God, Reverend Hunt has demonstrated the utmost ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of all those fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are delighted to honor this committed Christian and dynamic leader; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join with the congregation of Salem Gilfield Baptist Church in honoring and congratulating Reverend Stanford L. Hunt on his installment as their new pastor, salute his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living his life with courage and conviction, and wish him great success in his newest endeavor.

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