

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 847

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Isaac Richmond, Third Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated their time and energies toward enhancing the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Dr. Isaac Richmond, who is being honored at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service he has provided to the people of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Living Legend Awards ceremony, which honors Harriet Tubman and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected individual, Dr. Isaac Richmond served from 1977 to 2014 as the founder and minister of the Church of Human Development, Inc., and has enjoyed an extensive career as a champion for human rights, education, and community development; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Douglass High School in Memphis, Dr. Richmond earned his bachelor's degree from Lane College, received a master's degree in religious education and a Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theology Center, and obtained his Doctorate of Ministry degree from the Atlanta Theological Association; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Richmond's extensive career, he has served as a training coordinator in South Carolina, a staff assistant to the mayor of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, an urban planner/youth development worker with the Watts Community Development Center in Los Angeles, California, a research assistant/community organizer with the Southern Regional Council under John Lewis, a senior training officer with Atlanta University's Multi-purpose

Training Center, and Vice President/Academic Dean at the University of Marietta Christian School; and

WHEREAS, an international activist, Dr. Richmond served as an NGO delegate to the United Nations Human Rights Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1978, and was a delegate to the Third African-African American Leadership Summit in Dakar, Senegal, West Africa, in 1994 and the Fourth African-African American Leadership Summit in 1996; and

WHEREAS, he served as the keynote speaker at the First Global Conference of the Heartbeat of Africa organization in Liberia, West Africa, founded Heartbeat of Africa, USA/Diaspora, Inc., and was appointed Supreme Elder of the Global Heartbeat of Africa network; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Isaac Richmond is an exemplary individual; his commitment to excellence and community service is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Dr. Isaac Richmond upon his recognition at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud his outstanding community leadership, and extend our best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.