

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1050

By Hardaway

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Loyal Edward Featherstone of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Dr. Loyal Edward Featherstone; and

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

WHEREAS, born on January 31, 1950, to the late Robert and Eula Featherstone, Loyal Edward Featherstone was the fifth of eight children; and

WHEREAS, a 1968 graduate of Melrose High School, Reverend Featherstone attended Memphis State University, now known as the University of Memphis, and he obtained a Master of Divinity degree from Memphis Theological Seminary; he was conferred a Doctorate of Humane Letters by the Tennessee School of Religion; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the late Reverend Calvin Mims, Reverend Featherstone accepted Christ at Castalia Baptist Church. He was an associate minister at The New Sardis Baptist Church, where he had previously served as a Sunday School Superintendent and Chairman of the Trustee Ministry; he also served as the Economic Empowerment Ministry Chairman, which allowed him numerous opportunities to teach seminars locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, a former pastor of New Zion Baptist Church in Olive Branch, Mississippi, Reverend Featherstone was also a successful businessman, land developer, home builder, and real estate broker; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to serving his community, Reverend Loyal Featherstone was a tenured Land Use Board Commissioner and Utility Overview Board Commissioner for the State of Tennessee, Board Chairman of the Memphis Health Center, Treasurer of the Zion District Association and the African American Museum of Memphis, and past president of the Melrose Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Featherstone was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Loyal Featherstone enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of forty years, Rowena Allen Featherstone; his children, Molik Davis and Dr. Mariel Featherstone; his daughter-in-law, Rhonda (Reverend Dr. Christopher) Davis; and his three precious granddaughters, Jaden Davis, Jenna Davis, and Morleigh Davis; and

WHEREAS, he will be sorely missed but fondly remembered by his sisters, Lilly (Kenneth) Williams, LaVern Lane, Roberta Reddick, and Frances Norphlet; his brothers, Billy (Evelyn) Featherstone and Carl Featherstone; his sisters-in-law, Bettie (Alvin) Frazier and Lucille Boyd; his brother-in-law, Thomas (Thelma) Allen, Jr.; his aunt, Lillie Brown; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of dear friends; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Featherstone leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should 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 ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Loyal Edward Featherstone, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his 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 Reverend Featherstone.

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.