

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1005

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Cleo Eugene "Jack" Jackson III on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cleo Eugene "Jack" Jackson III is one such estimable person, who is taking his much-deserved retirement after serving with faith and probity as senior pastor of First Baptist Church Lenoir City for nineteen years; and

WHEREAS, known to many as Pastor Jack, he was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 26, 1961; he accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized at New Hope Baptist Church when he was nine years old; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jackson received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Philosophy from Mercer University and his Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in church history from Princeton Theological Seminary. He holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with an emphasis in evangelism and church growth, and he also studied at Oxford University and Cambridge University; and

WHEREAS, after being licensed and ordained in the ministry, he pastored churches in Georgia for fifteen years before accepting the call to lead First Baptist Church Lenoir City in April 2001; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jackson is an adjunct professor and the director of the East Tennessee Extension Center of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; he has held leadership roles at the local association level, state level, and national convention level within the Southern

Baptist Convention and served as a trustee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Baptist Hospital; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Leadership Loudon County, Pastor Jackson has served as president of the Lenoir City Rotary Club and Lenoir City Civitan Club and a board member of the Good Samaritan Center, the Boys & Girls Club, and the Hope Resource Center; he is a Paul Harris Fellow and has been recognized as Rotarian of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jackson was honored to serve as the Minister of the Day in the Tennessee House of Representatives during the 2012 legislative session and was recognized as an honorary Tennessean in 2007. He was the chaplain of the Georgia Senate during the 1997 legislative session and served as a Lieutenant Colonel, Aide-De-Camp, Governor's Staff, for the State of Georgia in 1991; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of thirty-six years, Vickie, and their three children, Andrea, Caleb, and Micah, and four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, a published author and longtime blogger, Pastor Jackson will enjoy his retirement from full-time ministry in Greenback, where he plans to further pursue his love of writing; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable and devout career as a pastor, Pastor Jackson has evinced the utmost spirituality, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his congregation; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are delighted to recognize this committed Christian leader for his service to his community and to the congregation of First Baptist Church Lenoir City; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Dr. Cleo Eugene "Jack" Jackson III upon the occasion of his retirement and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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.