

By: Jordan

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. JAMES ALVIN BOYD FOR THE
2 WONDERFUL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS 33-YEAR MINISTRY AT ZION GATE
3 MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, through the help of God and Dr. James Alvin Boyd and
5 his family, Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus,
6 Mississippi, has prospered and is known across the country; and

7 WHEREAS, James Alvin Boyd was the eighth child born to
8 Reverend Garfield, Sr., and Mrs. Alberta Boyd. James Alvin Boyd
9 was born on July 30, 1941, in Oktibbeha County; James Alvin Boyd
10 attended Sand Creek Elementary School in Starkville, Mississippi,
11 where he completed Grades 1 through 8. He graduated from the
12 Oktibbeha Training School, later named Henderson High School. He
13 was admired because of his academic achievements and his
14 leadership abilities. Whether playing in the band or presiding as
15 class president, James Alvin Boyd's qualities for greatness were
16 being developed; and

17 WHEREAS, growing up in a Christian home, James knew the Lord
18 from a very early age. He was active in his local church, First
19 John Missionary Baptist Church; he traveled with his father to
20 attend the local District Congress and Associations, State
21 Congress and Convention. It was during those early years that

22 James heard the voice of God, but refused to accept His calling.
23 After his father's death, James surrendered to the call of God and
24 preached his first public sermon in April of 1960; after high
25 school, James continued his education at Stillman College where he
26 graduated in 1964. James returned home and was united in holy
27 matrimony to the former Kathrene Peterson; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Boyd have been blessed with two
29 beautiful daughters, Sandra Boyd and DeWanda (Ross) Crawford, both
30 of Starkville, Mississippi; they also have three fine grandsons,
31 James, Steven and Evan; and

32 WHEREAS, in 1965, James Alvin Boyd entered the pastoral
33 field. He became pastor of Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church
34 and El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Mississippi;
35 in 1970, again hearing the voice of God, he resigned as an English
36 professor in the Columbus School System and pastor of El Bethel
37 Missionary Church to become full-time pastor of Zion Gate
38 Missionary Baptist Church; and

39 WHEREAS, for the past thirty-three years the ministry of Dr.
40 James Alvin Boyd has blessed this church, this city, this state
41 and this nation; and

42 WHEREAS, under Dr. James Alvin Boyd the church has
43 pilgrimaged from "Egypt" and on its way to our "Canaan," has
44 accomplished the following: new sanctuary built; educational
45 facilities added; land purchased; parking lot paved; computer
46 system installed; Zion Apartment Complex purchased; three worship
47 services: 8:00 A.M., 10:45 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.; two nursing home
48 ministries: Vineyard Court Nursing Home and Aurora Australis
49 Lodge; two television ministries: WCBI Channel 4 (Columbus,
50 Mississippi) and Northland Cable Channel 8 (Starkville,
51 Mississippi); two radio ministries: WACR 1050 AM (Columbus,
52 Mississippi) and WSEL 96.7 FM (Pontotoc, Mississippi); video and

53 audio ministries; and thirty ministers accepted their call to
54 preach; and

55 WHEREAS, Dr. James Alvin Boyd serves on local, state and
56 national levels: board member - National Baptist Convention,
57 U.S.A., Inc.; President - Northeast Mississippi Baptist State
58 Convention, Inc.; past President - Northeast Mississippi Baptist
59 State S.S. and N.B.C. Congress; Trustee Chairman - Ministerial
60 Institute and College; Homiletic instructor - Ministerial
61 Institute and College; Lecturer - Mt. Olivet District Association;
62 Evangelist - revivals, seminars and conferences across the nation;
63 and

64 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
65 minister who has brought such positive leadership to his church,
66 community and to the State of Mississippi:

67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
68 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend Dr. James A. Boyd for the
69 wonderful accomplishments of his 33-year ministry at Zion Gate
70 Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Mississippi, and wish him,
71 his family and his congregation success in their future endeavors.

72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
73 presented to Dr. Boyd and his family, and be made available to the
74 Capitol Press Corps.