

By: Representatives Massengill, Creekmore IV To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 102

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING BEULAH BAPTIST
2 CHURCH, THE "LIGHTHOUSE ON THE HILL", IN MYRTLE, MISSISSIPPI, ON
3 THE OCCASION OF ITS MILESTONE 175TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

4 WHEREAS, Beulah Baptist Church, reverently referred to as
5 "the Lighthouse on the Hill", is blessed to celebrate the
6 momentous occasion of its 175th year anniversary; and

7 WHEREAS, the church's origin began in August 1848, when 10
8 Christians, who were driven by their desire to collectively
9 worship, searched their hearts and agreed to form the United
10 Baptist Church of Beulah; and

11 WHEREAS, William Hale addressed the initial members of the
12 newly formed church and met on the second Sunday of each month,
13 while conducting church business on the preceding Saturday; and

14 WHEREAS, due to the generosity of the Collins family, the
15 church held its first meeting at McNair Springs on land donated by
16 the Collins family; and



17 WHEREAS, around 1872, the second church was a log church that
18 was built across the road with a path leading down the hill to the
19 spring; and

20 WHEREAS, the third church was a white frame church that was
21 built sometime around 1904, with only one room and glorious hard
22 wooden benches; and

23 WHEREAS, in the 1800s through the early 1900s, the church was
24 very strict and exacted disciplinary action to its members as
25 evidenced in the church's historical records which show people
26 being called before the church for drinking, swearing and dancing;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, until the early 1940s, the church held a service for
29 preaching once a month, then twice a month, but was able to start
30 full time church services in the 1960s; and

31 WHEREAS, in 1958, the big white church was torn down and by
32 1978, a mere 20 years, the first brick church was built, and after
33 continued growth, the church outgrew that building and the present
34 church has been remodeled; and

35 WHEREAS, the longevity and constant evolution of this church
36 evidence the faithfulness and dedication of generations of members
37 of Beulah Baptist Church as many other churches have come and gone
38 since Beulah Baptist Church was created; and

39 WHEREAS, steadfast and immovable, only a few churches in
40 Union County are older than Beulah, however, Beulah can boast that



41 it has never closed its doors, even during the Civil War, World
42 Wars I and II, and many other drastic times; and

43 WHEREAS, only literal "acts of God" resulting in bad weather
44 and impossible roads have kept the church from having regular
45 services; and

46 WHEREAS, the families of the church are just as steadfast, to
47 this date, some families in the church have ancestors who attended
48 Beulah dating back to the early 1850s; and

49 WHEREAS, many amazing and anointed pastors have lead the
50 sheep of Beulah Baptist Church since its founding, and Pastor
51 Marty Merritt, is no exception, as he will guide the congregation
52 in celebration of its 175th year anniversary; and

53 WHEREAS, in hard times, good times, Beulah Baptist Church
54 continues to be a "Lighthouse on the Hill":

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
56 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
57 commend and congratulate Beulah Baptist Church, reverently known
58 as the "Lighthouse on the Hill," in Myrtle, Mississippi, on the
59 momentous occasion of its 175th anniversary, and extend our best
60 wishes to the Pastor, Elders, Deacons and the Congregation for
61 continued prosperity.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
63 furnished to Pastor Marty Merritt, the Beulah Baptist Church
64 leadership, and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

