

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Scoper, Smith, Johnson (19th), White (29th), Nunnelee, Little, King, Ross, Carlton, Dearing, Frazier, Harden, Furniss, Lee, Thames, Harvey, Farris To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 570

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MINISTRY AND CIVIC
2 DEDICATION OF DR. FRANK POLLARD, OUTSTANDING PASTOR OF FIRST
3 BAPTIST CHURCH IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON
4 THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, on December 30, 2001, First Baptist Church of
6 Jackson, Mississippi, celebrated the outstanding ministry of Dr.
7 Franklin Dawes (Frank) Pollard, on the eve of his retirement as
8 Pastor; and

9 WHEREAS, under the outstanding leadership of Frank Pollard
10 from 1974 to 1980 and from 1986 through 2001, First Baptist Church
11 has expanded its ministries and missions from Jackson's inner-city
12 to around the world; and

13 WHEREAS, the church has consistently been one of the top
14 three among 40,000 Southern Baptist Churches in giving through the
15 Cooperative Program to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for
16 Foreign Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home
17 Missions - a total of \$23,811,927.00; the church has established
18 Mission First, a nonprofit inner-city ministry organization; built
19 and staffed the West Park Ministry Center in inner-city Jackson;
20 involved more than 1,000 members in over 20 mission trips and
21 projects in Jackson and the United States and around the world in
22 the year 2000; developed a churchwide Mission Statement;
23 established a Mission and Evangelism Department; founded a Chinese
24 congregation with over 70 active members; established a weekly
25 ministry to the international community of Jackson; and started
26 the Deerfield Baptist Church at Gluckstadt, Mississippi; and

27 WHEREAS, Sunday services are broadcast to over 20 million
28 homes as the *TV Baptist Hour* and on more than 300 stations as the



29 *Radio Baptist Hour*. For five years, FBC services were the only
30 evangelical TV broadcast in Russia; and

31 WHEREAS, the Music Ministry involves more than 1,100 singers
32 in 16 choirs. The *Carols by Candlelight* Christmas Concert and the
33 Easter Musical were broadcast nationally by ABC in 1995 and 1996;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, the church has: baptized 2,367 since 1974; moved to
36 multiple Sunday Schools and Worship Services; started a ministry
37 to singles and college students that now involves 1,500; initiated
38 a Counseling Ministry that currently employs a dozen therapists
39 seeing some 3,500 cases annually; implemented a Church Activities
40 Ministry that involves 60,000 annually; led more than 900 to pray
41 to receive Christ through various ministries in the year 2000; and
42 sent more than 75 members to Southern Baptist Seminaries; and

43 WHEREAS, Frank Pollard was named one of seven Outstanding
44 Protestant Preachers in America by *Time Magazine*, was honored with
45 a Distinguished Service Award by the Alumni Association of Golden
46 Gate Seminary, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from
47 Southwestern Seminary and Dr. Pollard was chosen by his fellow
48 pastors to be President of the Mississippi Baptist Convention; and

49 WHEREAS, when Jesus said in John 15:19 "you do not belong to
50 the world. I have chosen you out of the world," he already had
51 his hand on Frank Pollard. Not only did God choose Frank Pollard,
52 he also chose Jane Shepherd, a fellow student at Graham High
53 School, who was well into plans for a career in medicine. Under
54 the influence of the Holy Spirit, Jane joined her life with
55 Frank's replacing medicine with ministry; and

56 WHEREAS, Frank and Jane Pollard and their children, Suzanne
57 and Brent, followed a ministerial trail that carried them through
58 Southwestern Seminary, through a series of small pastorates in
59 rural Texas, then to the rapidly-expanding Shiloh Terrace Baptist
60 Church in Dallas. His reputation as Pastor of Shiloh Terrace
61 Church led the Pulpit Committee from First Baptist Church to hear



62 the 39-year-old preacher on Sunday, December 30, 1973, and was
63 called immediately. He served for six years before going to First
64 Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas, then became President of the
65 Southern Baptist Convention's Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley,
66 California. Dr. Pollard was called again to First Baptist Church
67 in 1986 for his second service as pastor; the growth of the church
68 programs during Dr. Pollard's tenure is a matter of record; and

69 WHEREAS, for many years Dr. Pollard was our neighbor across
70 the street from the New Capitol and gave the invocation for the
71 commencement of sessions of the Mississippi Senate on numerous
72 occasions; and

73 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
74 outstanding ministry of an individual who surely was God's chosen
75 instrument, and who brought honor to his congregation, his
76 community and to the State of Mississippi:

77 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
78 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
79 we do hereby commend the ministry and civic dedication of Dr.
80 Frank Pollard, outstanding Pastor of First Baptist Church in
81 Jackson, Mississippi, congratulate him on the occasion of his
82 retirement, and wish him and his family success in all their
83 future endeavors.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
85 presented to Dr. Pollard and his family, be forwarded to the
86 Mississippi Baptist Convention and be made available to the
87 Capitol Press Corps.

