

1 HJR477  
2 117181-1  
3 By Representatives Hall, Hinshaw, Taylor, Ball, McCutcheon,  
4 Sanderford and Williams (P)  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 02-MAR-10

8 COMMENDING REVEREND DOCTOR JULIUS SCRUGGS ON  
9 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT.

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Reverend Doctor Julius R. Scruggs has  
12 been an outstanding minister and servant of God throughout his  
13 life and career; and

14 WHEREAS, Reverend Scruggs, a native of Elkton,  
15 Tennessee, was reared in Toney, Alabama, by his loving  
16 parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Earl Scruggs, Sr.; he graduated  
17 from Council Training High School in Huntsville and proceeded  
18 to American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee, where he  
19 earned his Bachelor of Arts degree; thereafter, he earned  
20 Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from the  
21 Vanderbilt University School of Divinity in Nashville; and

22 WHEREAS, Reverend Scruggs began his ministerial  
23 career at the age of 18 at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist  
24 Church in Harvest, where he served from 1960 to 1965; he  
25 pastored the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Nashville from 1965  
26 to 1972 and the Antioch Baptist Church in East Chicago,  
27 Indiana, from 1972 to 1977; he has been the pastor of First

1                   Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville since returning home  
2                   in 1977; and

3                   WHEREAS, an accomplished intellectual and theorist,  
4                   Reverend Scruggs has authored four books - Meditations on the  
5                   Church, Baptist Preachers with Social Consciousness: A  
6                   Comparative Study of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Harry  
7                   Fosdick, God is Faithful, and How to Study and Teach the  
8                   Bible; and

9                   WHEREAS, Reverend Scruggs is a man of deep social  
10                  consciousness who has given countless hours to religious and  
11                  community causes; he is a member of the Board of Trustees of  
12                  the American Baptist College and former member of the Selma  
13                  University and former President of the Alabama State  
14                  Missionary Baptist Convention (President Emeritus); he is a  
15                  member of the Huntsville Human Relations Commission and a  
16                  member and former president of the Greater Huntsville  
17                  Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship; and

18                  WHEREAS, Reverend Scruggs' work in the church and  
19                  community has garnered countless awards and recognitions; in  
20                  1998, he received the Martin Luther King, Jr., Award from the  
21                  GHIMF; in 1999, he was elected Vice President of the National  
22                  Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; in 2009, the NBC elected  
23                  Reverend Scruggs President, an office he will hold through  
24                  2014; and

25                  WHEREAS, in his tenure at First Missionary Baptist,  
26                  Reverend Scruggs has presided over unprecedented growth for

1 the church, its congregation, and its ministries in the  
2 community; and

3 WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Reverend Scruggs is  
4 married to the former Josephine Stewart Tipton; Reverend and  
5 Mrs. Scruggs are the proud parents of a daughter, Jennifer  
6 Juliette Scruggs and a son, Morris Errol Tipton, II; they have  
7 three grandchildren, Morris E. Tipton, III, Morgan Taylor  
8 Tipton, and Elizabeth Francina Scruggs; and

9 WHEREAS, Reverend Scruggs has led a remarkable life  
10 and enjoyed an outstanding career in the ministry; his record  
11 of accomplishment honors all Alabamians; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we heartily commend the  
14 Reverend Doctor Julius R. Scruggs on his service to God and  
15 man and that, by copy of this resolution, we extend our  
16 sincerest good wishes for all his future endeavors.