

1 HR473
2 117180-1
3 By Representatives Hall, Hinshaw, Taylor, Ball, McCutcheon,
4 Sanderford and Williams (P)
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 02-MAR-10

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8 COMMENDING REVEREND DOCTOR JULIUS SCRUGGS ON
9 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT.
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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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
13 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, 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.