

1 SJR104  
2 130305-1  
3 By Senators Dunn, Allen, Beasley, Beason, Bedford, Blackwell,  
4 Brewbaker, Brooks, Bussman, Coleman, Dial, Fielding, Figures,  
5 Glover, Holley, Holtzclaw, Irons, Keahey, Marsh, McGill, Orr,  
6 Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Sanford, Scofield, Singleton,  
7 Smith, Smitherman, Taylor, Waggoner, Ward, Whatley, and  
8 Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 27-APR-11

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8 COMMENDING SHADY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ON  
9 ITS 97TH ANNIVERSARY.

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11 WHEREAS, members of the Shady Grove Missionary  
12 Baptist Church of Bessemer, Alabama, are observing the 97th  
13 Anniversary of its founding on May 15, 2011, with special  
14 services celebrating the Church's distinguished heritage; and

15 WHEREAS, the history of the Shady Grove Missionary  
16 Baptist Church is traced to May 6, 1914, when a small group of  
17 Christian men and women organized to establish a central place  
18 of worship, choosing a site at the edge of a mining camp  
19 called "Sloss" in the southeastern area of Bessemer; Reverend  
20 W.M. Brown was called to serve as the first Pastor; and

21 WHEREAS, as the membership increased, new quarters  
22 for worship were needed and provided; and

23 WHEREAS, the present brick structure was erected in  
24 the late 1960s, and additional property was acquired to serve  
25 the needs of the congregation as the church grew both  
26 spiritually and financially; and

1               WHEREAS, through the years, the church has been  
2               blessed with dedicated pastors who provided the leadership to  
3               expand the programs, enhance the ministries, and increase the  
4               outreach; and

5               WHEREAS, Reverend Victor L. Harkins, Sr., began his  
6               inspirational pastorate in October 1998 and maintains the  
7               honored traditions of his predecessors, as the church  
8               continues its phenomenal growth and development into new areas  
9               of service to the congregation and the entire community; now  
10              therefore,

11              BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
12              HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Shady Grove Missionary  
13              Baptist Church is honored and commended on the occasion of  
14              celebrating its 97th Anniversary on May 15, 2011, and this  
15              resolution is offered in highest tribute to its illustrious  
16              history, along with best wishes for the future.