

1 HJR12
2 164137-1
3 By Representative Buskey
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15

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8 HONORING THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.
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10 WHEREAS, highest commendation is herein conveyed to
11 the venerable Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, which is
12 observing its 160th Anniversary in the Year of Our Lord 2014;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
15 is the oldest Black Episcopal Congregation in the State of
16 Alabama, having been fostered in Trinity Church, when freed
17 men and slaves were worshiping in Trinity's gallery; and

18 WHEREAS, on May 28, 1854, with the confirmation of
19 seven devout Black members, the Episcopal Church of the Good
20 Shepherd was established; and

21 WHEREAS, in the beginning, services were held in the
22 "Love and Charity Hall" at Dearborn and St. Michael Streets in
23 Mobile, Alabama; other sites were later acquired, and the
24 church is now located on Donald Street in Mobile, where it is
25 a monument to faith and fortitude; and

26 WHEREAS, through the years, the church has expanded
27 in membership and ministries, becoming a viable and visible

1 part in the development of the Diocese of the Central Gulf
2 Coast; and

3 WHEREAS, historical milestones include 1896, when
4 the Reverend James N. Thompson became the first
5 African-American Priest and Rector of the Church; and

6 WHEREAS, on September 15, 2008, the Reverend Nancy
7 Threadgill was called as the twelfth Rector and second female
8 to serve as Rector; and

9 WHEREAS, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
10 continues to serve as a beacon of faith and a source of
11 spiritual strength in the Mobile area, building on its
12 illustrious history; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That it is a privilege to honor the
15 dedicated leaders and devout members of the Episcopal Church
16 of the Good Shepherd, past and present, and it is directed
17 that a copy of this resolution of tribute be provided to the
18 church in recognition of 160 years of service to God and
19 mankind, along with best wishes for the future.