

1 HJR72
2 198402-2
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 02-APR-19

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. DON DARIUS BUTLER AS THE
4 NEW PASTOR OF FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN HUNTSVILLE,
5 ALABAMA.

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7 WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, we
8 welcome the Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler as the new pastor
9 of First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama; and

10 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler assumes
11 pastoral leadership of First Missionary Baptist Church,
12 succeeding the Reverend Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, who has served
13 the congregation since January 1977, for a total 42 years; and

14 WHEREAS, First Missionary Baptist Church is in its
15 138th year of ministry, and it holds a long-standing history
16 in the City of Huntsville; the church is active in the
17 community, having partnerships with numerous local, state, and
18 national organizations; it provides a vibrant atmosphere of
19 worship and fellowship for many residents of the Greater
20 Huntsville area and for several other neighboring communities
21 as well; and

22 WHEREAS, a native of Nassau, Bahamas, the Reverend
23 Dr. Don Darius Butler earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in
24 Bible and Theology from American Baptist College in Nashville,
25 Tennessee; a Master of Divinity Degree and a certificate in

1 Black Church Studies from Vanderbilt Divinity School in
2 Nashville, Tennessee; and a Doctor of Ministry Degree from
3 Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina; and

4 WHEREAS, before joining First Missionary Baptist
5 Church, the Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler was the senior
6 pastor of Tabernacle Community Baptist Church in Milwaukee,
7 Wisconsin; during his nine-year tenure, he was instrumental in
8 the revitalization of the ministry; he facilitated several
9 unprecedented ministry innovations and milestones, and he led
10 a broad expansion of the church's local, national, and
11 international outreach; and

12 WHEREAS, he is married to La Keisha Wright Butler,
13 who is an attorney, and is the father of Dahlia Marie; also,
14 he is the chair of the American Baptist College Board of
15 Trustees and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.; and

16 WHEREAS, on February 3, 2019, First Missionary
17 Baptist Church hosted a warm welcome reception for the
18 Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler; and

19 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler is a
20 gifted leader, a dynamic preacher, and an inspirational
21 teacher with a deep love for Jesus Christ; now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby most heartily
24 commend the Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler as the new pastor
25 of First Missionary Baptist Church, and we extend our

1 heartfelt gratitude to him for his unwavering service to the
2 community.

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4 Speaker of the House of Representatives

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6 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

7 House of Representatives

8 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
9 and was adopted by the House 04-APR-19.

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Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

16-APR-19

Adopted