

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 547

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The members of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church
2 in Mexia are celebrating the 100th anniversary of their church's
3 founding on March 3, 2019; and

4 WHEREAS, Established in 1919 under the leadership of its
5 first pastor, the Reverend H. E. Embra, Sweet Home Missionary
6 Baptist Church began with 17 members who met in a garage; the
7 congregation built its first church structure in 1926, and in the
8 subsequent years, another building was constructed; and

9 WHEREAS, During the 1950s, the church was remodeled, and a
10 small fellowship hall was later added; the current sanctuary was
11 completed in the 1990s, along with an educational wing and a
12 permanent parsonage, and a new fellowship hall was completed in
13 2017; and

14 WHEREAS, Since its organization by Reverend Embra a century
15 ago, Sweet Home has benefited from the dedicated efforts of more
16 than 20 outstanding clergymen, including Byron Ravnell, who leads
17 the congregation today; under his leadership, the church has
18 ordained its first women ministers and organized its first women's
19 conference; and

20 WHEREAS, United by their shared faith and strong traditions,
21 the members of this notable house of worship have supported a
22 variety of commendable programs over the years that have offered
23 fellowship as well as help to those in need, including a food pantry
24 and clothing resale store, a community choir, a black history

1 program, and a church summer Olympics; and

2 WHEREAS, Countless residents of Mexia have looked to Sweet
3 Home Missionary Baptist Church for spiritual enrichment and
4 guidance through the years, and it is a pleasure to join in honoring
5 the church at this special time in its rich history; now, therefore,
6 be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Sweet Home Missionary Baptist
9 Church on its centennial and extend to Reverend Ravnell and the
10 members of the church sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church as an expression
14 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.