

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the House of Representatives in honor and loving
2 memory of Dr. T. Vaughn Walker.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. T. Vaughn Walker was a native of Heathsville, Virginia, the
4 cherished son of Thomas and Mary Walker; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker accepted Christ at the age of eight and was active at
6 Macedonia Baptist Church throughout his childhood. He earned a bachelor's degree from
7 Hampton University, master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University and the Southern
8 Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker pastored First Gethsemane Baptist Church in Louisville for
10 almost 35 years. While at First Gethsemane he and his congregation were featured as one
11 of only 13 congregations in the nation honored as a BreakOut church by Dr. Thom
12 Rainer; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker served as a board member or officer at Georgetown
14 College, Simmons College of Kentucky, the Academy of Preachers, and the Louisville
15 Christian Foundation; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker served as a professor at the Southern Baptist Theological
17 Seminary for three decades. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President R. Albert
18 Mohler Jr. called him "one of the most important seminary professors of the last century
19 in the Southern Baptist Convention." He would become the first African American full
20 professor at any seminary in the Southern Baptist Convention, and his legacy will be felt
21 for generations to come; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2000, Dr. Walker received the Black SBC Heritage Award as part
23 of Black Church Leadership Week. He wrote extensively on African American issues in
24 the church, and authored books such as *The Journal of African American Southern*
25 *Baptist History and Human Services and Social Change: An African American Church*
26 *Perspective*, among other volumes; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. T. Vaughn Walker, devout steward of God, esteemed educator,

1 and beloved pastor, departed this earthly life on January 28, 2019, leaving his family,
2 friends, and all those whose lives he touched in solemn mourning; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker is survived by his wife, Dr. Cheryl D. Walker; children,
4 David, Mary, and Eryn; grandchildren, Celeste, Celvion, Jai, Joi, Josiah, and Ella; and a
5 host of other family members, friends, and loved ones who will dearly miss his presence
6 in their lives;

7 NOW, THEREFORE,

8 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
9 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

10 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby express their
11 most profound sympathy upon the passing of Dr. T. Vaughn Walker, and posthumously
12 thank him for his extraordinary contributions to this Commonwealth's faith community.

13 ➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in
14 honor and loving memory of Dr. T. Vaughn Walker.

15 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
16 copy of this Resolution to Representative Reginald Meeks for delivery to the family.