

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Dr. T.  
2 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 Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
9 *Kentucky:*

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

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

15 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
16 Resolution to Senator Gerald A. Neal for delivery to the family.