

House Resolution No. 3434

Whereas, the Reverend Earl Abel of Kansas City attained considerable distinction as the pastor of Palestine Missionary Baptist Church of Jesus Christ which he organized in January 1959 with eleven members; and

Whereas, the Reverend Earl Abel diligently prepared for his spiritual ministry through studies at the University of Kansas and Western Baptist Bible College, from where he received a Doctor of Divinity degree; and

Whereas, in addition to his leadership of Palestine Missionary Baptist Church of Jesus Christ and its more than 2,000 members, the Reverend Earl Abel served the greater Kansas City community as a police chaplain for the Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department; and

Whereas, the Reverend Earl Abel was the past president of the Baptist Ministers Union of Kansas City, a member of the Kansas City Council on Crime Prevention, a twice-appointed member of the Human Relations Commission of Kansas City, a member of the Appellate Judicial Commission who was appointed in July 1999 by Governor Mel Carnahan, and an advisor to Kansas City elected officials; and

Whereas, the Reverend Earl Abel developed and maintained an exemplary reputation for his work in the areas of youth, senior citizens, and community outreach, particularly for the construction and operation of two senior citizen residences housing one hundred eighteen seniors, an activity center costing \$2.5 million, and a youth camp costing \$5 million; and

Whereas, no stranger to glory and honors, the Reverend Earl Abel was publically lauded by Saint Timothy Fellowship African Methodist Episcopal Church during Black History Month celebrations in February 2005; and

Whereas, the Reverend Earl Abel was justifiably proud to be known as the author of If A Church is to Grow...Keys to Nurturing Church Growth in the 21st Century, a family man who had been married to Hazel Lair Abel for fifty-four years, the loving father of two children, and the devoted grandfather of three:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to commemorate the life and work of the Reverend Earl Abel as pastor of Palestine Missionary Baptist Church of Jesus Christ and to convey this legislative body's most heartfelt condolences to his family members, parishioners, neighbors, and friends who will now miss his considerable warmth, strength, and light in their daily lives; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in memory of the Reverend Earl Abel of Kansas City, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Sharon Sanders Brooks
District No. 37

Representative Melba J. Curls, District No. 41; Representative Leonard (Jonas) Hughes, IV, District No. 42; Representative Craig Bland, District No. 43; and Representative Michael R. Brown, District No. 50

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,

Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3434, adopted May 18, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker