



HR0975

LRB099 15529 MST 39819 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Dr. A. Edward Davis, Jr. on the occasion of his 39th anniversary of serving St. John Missionary Baptist Church; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Davis was born on May 2, 1951, the second of 6 children born to the late Dr. A. Edward, Sr. and Vianna Davis; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Davis grew up in Chicago in the Morgan Park Community; he attended John D. Shoop Elementary School and Morgan Park High School; he received his Bachelor of Arts from Trinity College and his masters degree in theology from the Trinity School of Divinity in Deerfield; in August of 2001, he received his doctorate degree in ministry from the Gospel Outreach Theology Institute of Houston, Texas; he received his Doctorate of Biblical Studies from the Midwest Theological Institute of Indiana in March of 2006; and

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WHEREAS, On November 10, 1969, Dr. Davis accepted his calling to the ministry and preached his first sermon; after being licensed and ordained, he served as Youth Minister at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Morgan Park; and

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1           WHEREAS, On November 10, 1976, Dr. Davis was called to and  
2           elected Pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church; with a  
3           membership of only 15 parishioners at the time, he led the  
4           church in the paying off and burning of its mortgage; the  
5           church later embarked upon a \$7.8 million building project for  
6           a new edifice, including an educational facility and a  
7           full-time day care center; in October of 2005, the St. John  
8           family moved into their new edifice; he has brought the current  
9           membership to over 6450; and

10           WHEREAS, Dr. Davis also ministers to the community; he is  
11           currently appointed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel to head a task force  
12           for nonviolence initiative in the Roseland and Pullman  
13           Communities; he serves as Administrative First Vice  
14           President-Logistics of Clergy Speaks Interdenominational,  
15           President of the Nehemiah Restoration Coalition, and has held  
16           the position of Chairman of the Zoning Department for the City  
17           of Chicago under Mayor Richard Daley; he has served as  
18           Vice-Chairman for the Industrial Area Foundation and is  
19           Co-Chairman of the African American Baptist Caucus; he is also  
20           actively involved with the Operation PUSH, National Baptist  
21           Convention USA, the Baptist Pastor's Developing Communities  
22           Project, and The NEW Era District; and

23           WHEREAS, Dr. Davis has received many accolades, including  
24           the Spiritual Perspective and the Cornucopia, Men of Valor

1 Award; the Gospel Supreme, Labor of Love Award; the Shoop 49ers  
2 Award for Leadership; and the Distinguished God First  
3 Leadership Award; he was honored with the AARC Clay Evans  
4 Pastoral Excellence Award and the Fred Hampton Scholarship  
5 Foundation honored him with the Fred Hampton Image Award; in  
6 1996, he was elected as a Delegate to the National Democratic  
7 Convention; Mayor Richard Daley and the Chicago City Council  
8 presented him a Proclamation declaring November 14, 1999 as  
9 "Reverend A. Edward Davis, Jr. Day"; during the administration  
10 of the late Mayor Harold Washington, he was honored by the City  
11 Council; on May 23, 1993, he was awarded with a proclamation  
12 from the United States Congress, 2nd District of Illinois; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Davis has been called a unique preacher,  
14 par-excellence, who has an intellectually sound yet fierce  
15 approach to the ministry of the Word; he is the husband of E.J.  
16 Davis and the proud father of Amos E. Davis, III; therefore, be  
17 it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
20 congratulate Dr. A. Edward Davis, Jr. on his 39th anniversary  
21 of serving St. John Missionary Baptist Church and we wish him  
22 many more wonderful years; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Dr. Davis as an expression of our esteem and  
2 respect.