



HR1285

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel AME (Quinn Chapel) is the oldest
3 African American church in Chicago, and it sits upon the
4 longest-held real estate owned by African Americans in the
5 City; and

6 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel is a member of the 4th Episcopal
7 District of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church and
8 stewards Quinn Chapel for its benefit; and

9 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel has consistently and continuously
10 served as an oasis and beacon of hope for African Americans of
11 and around the Bronzeville community for over 175 years; and

12 WHEREAS, The building housing Quinn Chapel, located at 2401
13 South Wabash in Chicago, is listed on the National Register of
14 Historic Places; it is designated as an Illinois and Chicago
15 Landmark and holds many other historic designations; and

16 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel served as a platform for early
17 expression of African American culture; Frederick Douglas,
18 George Washington Carver, Martin Luther King, and many other
19 African American scholars and orators spoke from its pulpit;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, Suffragette Susan B. Anthony advocated from
2 Quinn's pulpit after being banned from speaking at the
3 Columbian Exposition in 1893; and

4 WHEREAS, The federal government has recognized the
5 cultural and historic significance of Quinn Chapel by
6 exhibiting a pew from its sanctuary as Artifact #1 in the
7 Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington,
8 D.C.; and

9 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel provides necessary services to the
10 surrounding community through youth mentoring, societal
11 reentry, and homeless outreach programs and initiatives, among
12 others, as well as senior and supportive housing through its
13 support of The Renaissance Collaborative and other housing
14 providers; and

15 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel is increasing its historic cultural
16 service to the wider community through, without limitation,
17 free historical education and tours by its Historic
18 Preservation Ministry, community outreach through its Peace in
19 the Streets Ministry, and by hosting cultural, educational, and
20 social events through its External Hospitality Ministry; and

21 WHEREAS, Quinn Chapel is an integral and vital asset to the
22 surrounding community as it evolves into a racially and

1 economically diverse neighborhood and tourist hub; and

2 WHEREAS, Through congregational giving, along with
3 multiple foundation and a few municipal and federal grants,
4 Quinn has made significant progress on a comprehensive physical
5 restoration that will further increase its ability to
6 positively impact the surrounding community; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 recognize the historic and cultural significance of Quinn
10 Chapel AME; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we applaud the significant and ongoing
12 effort made by Quinn Chapel in helping to preserve this
13 tangible aspect of its heritage; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we encourage the Department of Commerce and
15 Economic Opportunity's Office of Tourism and the Metropolitan
16 Exposition Authority to consider including Quinn Chapel public
17 tours and event space in their promotional materials for
18 McCormick Square and Bronzeville; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Quinn Chapel as an expression of our esteem and
21 respect.