



HR0614

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the congregation
4 of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Freeport on the
5 occasion of the church's 100th anniversary; and

6 WHEREAS, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church was
7 established on September 15, 1911; the church was originally a
8 prayer mission run by Sister Sarah Sides in her home; St. Paul
9 was the very first African-American church in Freeport; the
10 church's initial attendees and organizing saints were Mrs.
11 Sides and her family, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Clark, Reverend and
12 Mrs. H. Byrus, and many others; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1915, St. Paul was given the name Oak Hill
14 Baptist Church; under the leadership of Rev. J.H. Starks, the
15 name was changed to St. Paul Baptist Church; in 1962, while
16 under the pastorate of Robert Huff, the church officially
17 provided the name change of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church;
18 Pastor Huff served St. Paul as a visionary leader; under his
19 leadership, St. Paul moved to its present day location of
20 607-641 East Stephenson Street on Easter Sunday, April 14,
21 1968; since that time, St. Paul has erected an educational
22 facility in addition to the sanctuary; and

1 WHEREAS, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church has served as a
2 beacon of light in Freeport and the surrounding communities; it
3 has provided a mission ministry to young people, the needy, the
4 disenfranchised, and seniors; and

5 WHEREAS, Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the
6 congregation of St. Paul, Christian education and Baptist
7 doctrine has been administered, taught, and evangelized within
8 the Freeport community and northwest Illinois; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we congratulate the congregation of St. Paul Missionary Baptist
12 Church on the occasion of the church's 100th anniversary and
13 wish them continued success and happiness in the future; and be
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church as a symbol of
17 our esteem and respect.