



HR1069

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Reverend Marvin E. Wiley on the occasion of his 25th anniversary with Rock of Ages Baptist Church and honor him for his achievements in his community; and

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WHEREAS, On September 15, 1950, Rev. Thomas H. Wade, Sr., opened the doors of Rock of Ages Baptist Church in the Old Lycem Hall at 1309 Madison Street in Maywood; the church started with two members, his wife and his son; despite the church's meager start, Rock of Ages experienced great growth under the leadership of Rev. Wade; shortly after Rev. Wade passed away, Rev. Marvin E. Wiley was selected to carry on the vision of the church in March of 1991; Rev. Marvin E. Wiley brought a new and youthful spark to Rock of Ages Baptist Church; as a result, the membership increased at a phenomenal rate; and

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WHEREAS, In 1995, a new multi-million dollar edifice was built for the congregation of Rock of Ages Baptist Church at the original location of the Old Lycem Hall, which has been recognized in the community as an organization that effectively ministers to the spiritual, emotional, financial, physical, and social needs of the community; since Pastor Marvin Wiley's

1 installation, membership at Rock of Ages has grown from 400 to
2 more than 4,000, and Vision of Restoration, Inc., was founded
3 to restore the broken lives of residents in Maywood and the
4 surrounding communities; in October of 2003, the ministry
5 expanded to include a Saturday night worship in Bolingbrook to
6 meet the needs of members and residents in the western suburban
7 areas of Chicago; and

8 WHEREAS, Under Pastor Marvin Wiley's leadership, the T.H.
9 Wade Foundation Center, a four-level, multi-million dollar
10 facility opened on Thanksgiving Day in 2004; this new 40,000
11 square-foot edifice offers many additional resources for
12 training, education, and businesses; and

13 WHEREAS, In March of 2014, Rev. Marvin Wiley celebrated his
14 23rd anniversary as the pastor of the Rock of Ages Baptist
15 Church and his 32 years in the pastorate; in recognition of his
16 contributions to the communities that he serves, he was
17 recognized in March of 2006 by the Village of Maywood with an
18 honorary street sign that spans the corners of 12th and Madison
19 through 14th and Madison Streets; he was also recognized in the
20 2006 inaugural edition of Who'S Who in Black Chicago, a
21 publication showcasing the achievements of influential
22 African-American leaders in the Chicagoland area, and was
23 inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers of
24 Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia on April 3, 2008; and

1 WHEREAS, Rev. Marvin Wiley serves as a model of hard work,
2 integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of
3 Illinois; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 congratulate Reverend Marvin E. Wiley on the occasion of his
7 25th anniversary with Rock of Ages Baptist Church, honor him
8 for his achievements in his community, and wish him continued
9 success and happiness in the future; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to Rev. Marvin Wiley as a symbol of our esteem and
12 respect.