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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate Pastor James E.  
4 Washington on being promoted to the office of Bishop in the  
5 International Church of God in Christ; and

6           WHEREAS, Pastor Washington is currently the pastor of Saint  
7 Paul Church of God in Christ in Rockford and Mount Calvary  
8 Church of God in Christ in Freeport; the journey to promotion  
9 began in February of this year with a recommendation for the  
10 position; Pastor Washington completed the training institute  
11 for the office in March of 2004; the General Assembly, the  
12 governing body of the International Church of God in Christ,  
13 ratified the appointment in April of 2004; he will be installed  
14 in a consecration service on Monday, May 24, 2004 at  
15 Jurisdictional Headquarters in Chicago; the consecration  
16 service will be conducted by the Presiding Prelate of the  
17 International Church of God in Christ, Bishop Gilbert E.  
18 Patterson; and

19           WHEREAS, On Tuesday, May 25, 2004, Pastor Washington will  
20 assume responsibility for Illinois Fifth West Jurisdiction and  
21 will be the leader of churches included in that jurisdiction;  
22 the jurisdiction is a member assembly of the International  
23 Church; the International Church of God in Christ has a  
24 membership of 6,000,000 people worldwide and is the fourth  
25 largest religious body in the world; and

26           WHEREAS, Pastor Washington is a progressive and visionary  
27 leader in the Freeport and Rockford community; he will bring  
28 innovative and visionary administrative skills to the office of  
29 Bishop; he received his call to ministry in February of 1961;  
30 he served as assistant pastor for 15 years to Bishop Freeman  
31 Guy Green; he was installed as Pastor at Saint Paul Church of  
32 God in Christ in July of 1981; he has established 25 ministries

1 through his work at that church; he has led the building of new  
2 edifices, the purchase and establishment of coaches for S.P.  
3 Charter Service, and several projects through Hands that Help,  
4 Inc.; and

5 WHEREAS, Pastor Washington was installed as Pastor of Mount  
6 Calvary Church of God in Christ in 1998; he has established 10  
7 ministries as a result of his work with that church; under his  
8 leadership, land has been purchased for a new facility and  
9 plans are in the works; and

10 WHEREAS, Pastor Washington is active in his communities; in  
11 Rockford, he is a Vice President of the Rockford Ministers'  
12 Fellowship, a past president of the Northern Illinois Southern  
13 Wisconsin Pentecostal, and a member of the C.N.O. (Council of  
14 Neighborhood Organizations); in Freeport, he is a member of the  
15 Freeport African American Ministers United for Change; and

16 WHEREAS, Pastor Washington is married to Georgia Mae Lovett  
17 Washington; he is the father of Yolanda and Vincent and the  
18 extended family of Cabria and Kina; he has five grandchildren  
19 and many godchildren; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
22 congratulate Pastor James E. Washington on being promoted to  
23 the office of Bishop in the International Church of God in  
24 Christ; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
26 presented to Pastor James E. Washington as an expression of our  
27 respect and esteem.