



HR1020

LRB095 20193 GRL 46815 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate the congregation of the Allen Chapel AME Church in Galesburg on the occasion of the church's 155th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, The Allen Chapel AME Church was formed in May of 1853 by Susan Van Allen Richardson; after attending an African Methodist Episcopal Church Conference in Chicago, she had a vision of an AME church in Galesburg; she formed the Allen Chapel AME Church in her home, naming the church after Richard Allen, the first AME Bishop; and

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WHEREAS, In 1858, the Allen Chapel AME Church purchased their first property for four hundred dollars; constructed of wood, the church was destroyed by fire in the 1870s; the church was then rebuilt by Reverend Charles S. Jacobs, but suffered another fire a few weeks later; not to be overcome by such circumstances, Reverend Charles S. Jacobs and the Allen Chapel AME Church congregation rebuilt the church once again; the new Allen Chapel AME Church building stood until 1911, when the building was remodeled entirely in brick under the direction of the Reverend Timothy Tyler; and

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WHEREAS, Allen Chapel AME Church's current pastor,

1 Reverend Dr. Leoma Leigh-Williams, is the church's first female  
2 pastor in its 155-year history; and

3 WHEREAS, The Allen Chapel AME Church holds the distinction  
4 of remaining in the same location since the original wooden  
5 structure was constructed in the 1800s; and

6 WHEREAS, The strong sense of dedication and purpose shared  
7 by the congregation of the Allen Chapel AME Church is worthy of  
8 the greatest respect; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
11 congratulate the congregation of the Allen Chapel AME Church in  
12 Galesburg on the occasion of the church's 155th 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 Reverend Dr. Leoma Leigh-Williams as a symbol of  
17 our esteem and respect.