



HR1256

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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 Salem First Baptist Church on the occasion of the church's
5 175th anniversary; and

6 WHEREAS, The beginnings of Salem First Baptist Church can
7 be traced to the ministry of Dr. John Mason Peck, who, in 1832,
8 first visited Salem in order to establish "a Sunday school in
9 these parts"; and

10 WHEREAS, Despite being chased by dogs and being met with
11 bitter antagonism from natives, Dr. Peck returned months later
12 and secured permission to conduct a Baptist Sunday school
13 organizational meeting in the county's log courthouse; and

14 WHEREAS, On November 9, 1837, Dr. Peck, W.F. Boyakin,
15 Nathan Arnot, and Mary P. Rand held an organizational meeting,
16 where Salem First Baptist Church was organized with 12 charter
17 members; and

18 WHEREAS, The founders of Salem First Baptist Church have
19 passed down a rich heritage of people willing to meet a
20 challenge through shared sacrifice; and

1 WHEREAS, Salem First Baptist Church has the vision to
2 become a growing family of committed believers with an
3 increasing passion for God, passion for people, passion for
4 spiritual maturity, and a passion to serve; and

5 WHEREAS, Salem First Baptist Church will celebrate their
6 175th anniversary on October 6 and October 7, 2012, while
7 glancing gratefully to the past and looking prayerfully to the
8 future; 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 Salem First Baptist Church
12 on their 175th anniversary and wish them all the best in the
13 future; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Salem First Baptist Church as a symbol of our
16 respect and esteem.