



HR0277

LRB098 11802 MST 44915 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Pastor King James Underwood Sr. of Champaign, as he celebrates his 75th birthday; and

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WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood was born to Sarah Parson Underwood and Judge Underwood on April 24, 1938, in Pantherburn, Mississippi, the 9th out of 10 siblings; he moved to Urbana to live with his sister, Rosetta Williams, and her husband, Ike, when he was 7 years old; he worked full-time and graduated from high school in Urbana and then served in the U.S. Navy; he received a certificate from the Illinois Institute of Technology, a bachelors of arts in Theology, a bachelors in Rehabilitation Counseling, a masters of arts in Religious Studies Education, a doctor of Ministry, and a doctor of Divinity (honorary); and

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WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood worked for the University of Illinois in the Illini Union and Housing Division and as a general and sub-building contractor renovating homes and churches, helping in the building of New Free Will Baptist Church; he also worked for Alloy Engineering and Casting Company; and

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1 WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood served as spiritual counselor
2 and advisor to Danville Correctional Center, Champaign County
3 Jail, the University of Illinois, Eastern Illinois University,
4 Indiana University student outreach, and the Boy Scouts; he
5 aided students in tutorial programs for the Urban League of
6 Champaign County, the NAACP, Citizens Concerned with Quality
7 Education, the Ministerial Alliance of Champaign-Urbana and
8 Vicinity, the Rainbow Push Coalition Advisory Board of
9 Champaign County, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Advocacy for
10 Justice Committee, and Empty Tomb; he has benefited the
11 community spiritually, culturally and financially by
12 sponsoring Free Will Baptist District regional and youth
13 conferences; the mayor proclaimed a "Bishop King James"
14 Underwood Day" in Urbana; and

15 WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood is married to Dr. Evelan
16 Underwood and they have 10 children; and

17 WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood has devoted his life to giving
18 hope and improving the lives of the most vulnerable children,
19 seniors and poor families; and

20 WHEREAS, Pastor Underwood's 75th birthday celebration will
21 take place on April 26, 2013, at the Urbana Civic Center in
22 Urbana; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we wish to congratulate Pastor King James Underwood, as he
4 celebrates his 75th birthday; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Pastor Underwood as an expression of our esteem
7 and respect.