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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Rev. Dr. Albert
4 Sampson on celebrating his 50th anniversary in the ministry and
5 his 31st pastoral anniversary and subsequent retirement from
6 Ferwood United Methodist Church; and

7 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Sampson was born in 1938, in Everett,
8 Massachusetts; he graduated from Everett High School in 1956;
9 at the age of 19, he felt the strong call to enter the ministry
10 and was licensed to preach in his home church of Emmanuel
11 Baptist in Malden, Massachusetts; and

12 WHEREAS, While at Shaw University, Rev. Dr. Sampson earned
13 his bachelor's degree in Religion and Social Science; he later
14 received his master's degree in cultural studies in 1973 from
15 Governors State University, his master's of divinity degree in
16 1977 from McCormick Theological Seminary, and his doctorate in
17 divinity from Union Baptist Theological Seminary in Toledo,
18 Ohio; and

19 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Sampson is the founder and president of
20 the Faith-Based Organized Farmer Agribusiness Resource
21 Management and the Neighborhood Social Entrepreneurs Society;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Sampson was only one of the three
2 ministers ordained by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Ebenezer
3 Baptist Church in 1966; he was also inducted into the Martin
4 Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College; and

5 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Sampson was the SCLC Project Director
6 under Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., playing a critically
7 important role in the campaign for the election of Carl Stokes,
8 who became the first black mayor of a major U.S. city, in
9 Cleveland, Ohio; when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sought to fix
10 affordable housing issues in America, he appointed Rev. Dr.
11 Sampson as the National Housing Director of SCLC; and

12 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Sampson is a distinguished biblical
13 scholar and theological consultant for the Original African
14 Heritage Study Bible published by the Winston-Derrick
15 Publishing Company; he has appeared in thousands of media
16 outlets, such as Esquire and Ebony magazines, the New York
17 Times, the Chicago Tribune, and USA Today; he is also featured
18 in the History Makers DVD series as a Living Legend and his
19 biography is recognized in Gale Group's Who's Who in Black
20 America; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we congratulate Rev. Dr. Albert Sampson on his 50th pastoral
2 anniversary and his retirement and wish him continued success
3 and happiness in the years to come; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to Rev. Dr. Albert Sampson as a symbol of our respect
6 and esteem.