



HR0129

LRB099 09023 MST 29208 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Morning Star Freewill
4 Baptist Church in Urbana on the occasion of the 104th
5 anniversary of its founding; and

6 WHEREAS, The Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church was
7 organized on February 22, 1911 by the Executive Board of the
8 Terre Haute Quarterly Conference of the Freewill Baptist
9 General Conference; and

10 WHEREAS, The Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church traces
11 back to the Freewill doctrine, a movement that began in the
12 1600s that believes a person can determine his or her fate and
13 be saved, no matter how "sinful" their past, if they are "born
14 again" and live according to the Bible; and

15 WHEREAS, The Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church was
16 organized in a small building on North Hickory Street in
17 Champaign under the leadership of its first elected minister,
18 Rev. L.W. Wilber; shortly thereafter, the church moved to a
19 location on West Church Street in Urbana and, later, to its
20 present site at the corner of Eads and Romine; and

21 WHEREAS, The groundbreaking for the Morning Star Freewill

1 Baptist Church's present location was held on May 5, 1968, and
2 it opened in January of 1969; and

3 WHEREAS, The Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church is
4 currently led by Vice Bishop Jimmie O. Holmes, Sr.; and

5 WHEREAS, The Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church is proud
6 to be the oldest African-American church in Urbana; therefore,
7 be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 congratulate the Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church on its
11 104th anniversary and wish them many more years of success; and
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church as an
15 expression of our esteem and respect.