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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, It has come to the attention of the members of the
Illinois House of Representatives that Father Darryl F. James,
rector of Messiah-St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church in the
Avalon Park Community of Chicago, is moving to Grace Episcopal
Church in Jamaica, New York; and

WHEREAS, His journey in ministry began at Howard University as a student participating in the Absalom Jones Student Association; Father James received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1976 and matriculated at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta for a year; and

WHEREAS, The late Right Reverend John M. Burgess, first African-American diocesan bishop in the Episcopal Church, recruited Father James to Yale University, where he received his Master of Divinity degree in 1979; Father James served at Trinity Cathedral in Newark, New Jersey, and SS. Matthew and Joseph in Detroit, Michigan, before coming to Chicago; and

WHEREAS, For 21 years a part of his ministry has involved exposing young people to opportunities in higher education; Father James has encouraged and sponsored trips to colleges and universities across the country; Father James serves on many boards and community organizations including The Human

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- 1 Resources Development Institute, the Community Advisory
- 2 Council of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Community
- 3 Renewal Society, and as chair of the Community Ministers
- 4 Alliance; he was a member of the Chicago Board of Education,
- 5 and served as the National President of the Union of Black
- 6 Episcopalians; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Father James currently serves as national
- 8 Vice-President for membership to the Howard University Alumni
- 9 Association; he has served on the Design Team that created
- 10 liturgies for the 2002 Episcopal Youth Event, the Benefits
- 11 Research Advisory Committee of the Church Pension Fund, the
- 12 Diocesan Excellent Disciples Committee, and currently serves
- on the Christian Formation Commission; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Father James continues the legacy of blessed
- 15 Absalom Jones, first black priest of the Episcopal Church, by
- 16 promoting peace and justice in the church and the larger
- 17 community; therefore, be it
- 18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
- 19 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
- 20 congratulate Father Darryl F. James on his move to Grace
- 21 Episcopal Church in Jamaica, New York and thank him for his
- 22 years of ministry and service to the citizens of the State of
- 23 Illinois; and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 2 presented to Father Darryl F. James as a symbol of our respect.