



SR0332

LRB104 13642 LAW 26283 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to congratulate Father Michael Louis Pflieger on the occasion of celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest; and

3

4

5

6

WHEREAS, Father Pflieger received his Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Loyola University, his Master of Divinity from the University of St. Mary of the Lake, and an honorary Doctor of Divinity from North Park Theological Seminary; he has also completed post-graduate studies at Mundelein College and the Catholic Theological Union; and

7

8

9

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Father Pflieger has lived and ministered in the African American community on both Chicago's West and South Sides since 1968; he also worked in a Native American community in Oklahoma for two summers, and he completed his seminary internship as a chaplain at Cook County Jail and Precious Blood Catholic Church, both in Chicago; and

13

14

15

16

17

18

WHEREAS, Father Pflieger became an ordained priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 14, 1975; at the age of 31, he became the youngest full pastor in the diocese when he was appointed as pastor of Saint Sabina Church in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood of Chicago in 1981; and

19

20

21

22

1           WHEREAS, Father Pflieger has led an active and extensive  
2 ministry, seeking to break down the walls of racism and  
3 denominationalism by building unity among all people through a  
4 foundation based on truth and the tenets of his faith; he has  
5 been involved in many issues, such as campaigns against  
6 racism, the sale of drug paraphernalia, ads and billboards  
7 that target children with alcohol and tobacco, and negative  
8 music that glorifies violence and degrades women; in the  
9 process, he has been recognized by People, Time, Ebony,  
10 Newsweek, the Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, and the Los  
11 Angeles Times, and he has been profiled on 60 Minutes and The  
12 Larry King Show; and

13           WHEREAS, Father Pflieger has remained committed to serving  
14 the Saint Sabina Parish and the surrounding community through  
15 founding the Employment Resource Center, the Ark Youth Center,  
16 the Saint Sabina Social Service Center, the Thea Bowman  
17 Spiritual Advance Center, the Samaritan House for the  
18 Homeless, the Saint Sabina 80-unit Elders Village, and the  
19 Beloved Community, Inc.; and

20           WHEREAS, Father Pflieger has been the recipient of several  
21 honors, including being inducted into the International Civil  
22 Rights Walk of Fame in Atlanta, Georgia and receiving the  
23 Keeper of the Dream Award from the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, the

1 Thurgood Marshall Award from the National Black Prosecutors  
2 Association, the Beautiful Are Their Feet Award at the 2009  
3 Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, and the Lifetime Achievement  
4 Award from the Office of Racial Justice of the Archdiocese of  
5 Chicago; and

6 WHEREAS, Father Pflieger, amidst celebrations for his 50th  
7 anniversary, has continue to serve the Saint Sabina Parish and  
8 the community by hosting a gun turn-in event, a carnival, and a  
9 food giveaway; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Father  
12 Michael Louis Pflieger on the 50th anniversary of his  
13 ordination as a priest, and we wish him continued success in  
14 his ministry and advocacy; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 presented to Father Pflieger as an expression of our esteem and  
17 respect.