



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-4432, **Version:** 1

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### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING THE 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY OF JAMES SPROWAL**

**WHEREAS**, James Sprowal was born in Greenwood, South Carolina on May 13, 1917, the first born of Frank and Willie Sprowal. Over the next twenty years, Frank and Willie Sprowal presented James with three brothers and four sisters. The family lived on a farm in the south during the Great Depression and segregation; and

**WHEREAS**, James Sprowal grew up and married his beloved Eddie Mae Tucker on December 24, 1941 at the Justice of the Peace and paid \$5.00 for the license. James has been quoted as saying that “those five dollars were the best investment I ever made.” The couple were married for over 68 years until Eddie Mae’s death in 2011. Together they raised a wonderful family, two children of their own, three nieces and a nephew: Mrs. Emma Sprowal, Mr. John Sprowal, Rev. Ernie C. Bibbs (Sharon), Angela Y. Fisher, Leticia Fisher, Toni L. Fisher; and

**WHEREAS**, James Sprowal proudly served his country in the military. He was a decorated veteran of the United States army and served in World War II. Three of his children followed in his footsteps and served: John Sprowal in the United States Army, Ernie Bibbs in the United States Army, and Toni L. Fisher who served in the United States Marines; and

**WHEREAS**, James Sprowal’s family has a history of long life and prosperity. His mother died at the age of ninety-nine and at the age one hundred James has the stamina and schedule of a person half his age; he is still driving, taking care of his own lawn, singing in the church choir, and paying his own bills; and

**WHEREAS**, James Sprowal is legendary in his tireless commitment to his faith and church. He is an active member and serves as Trustee Emeritus at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, where he has been a member for more than fifty years; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County takes great pleasure in honoring and celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, hard work and many accomplishments of James Sprowal and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to James Sprowal in honor of his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.