



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 17-5439, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH CENTURY OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago is an integral part of the history of South Chicago. It is currently located at 9104 South Baltimore in Chicago, IL. Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago was organized in 1917, with ten (10) members and Reverend Frank Gaskin as the pastor; and

WHEREAS, The growth of Pilgrim required strength and faith. The church has had only six pastors, each of them, having a tremendous spiritual impact on the community. Each Pastor provided structure, guidance, and leadership within the church and throughout the community. Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago has been a blessing and sanctuary for many; and

WHEREAS, The popularity of Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago physical building escalated because of scenes in several movies, *The Blues Brothers*, and the featuring the church in several episodes of *The Women of Brewster Place* and *The Mike and Molly Show*; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, during the celebration of the 89th anniversary, a flameless fire ravished the physical building of the church, and scorched the spiritual building of the soul. The fire opened many doors for blessings as other churches showed love through many acts of kindness and after six (6) months, the church was fully restored; and

WHEREAS, Pilgrim's growth has been phenomenal. New ministries have been formed, including the Feeding of the Hunger Program. Pilgrim's membership was trained in GOD's way for giving Tithing. The congregation continues to grow with children and youth ministries being added, to enhance their spiritual growth and showcase their gifts and talents; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Corwin D. Lasenby, Sr., has been the pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago for the past 4 years. Reverend Lasenby loves the LORD, he is focused on feeding his flock. His vision referred to as the 4 'R's is to Reach, Revive, Restore and Retain all whom the LORD sends to Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago. His ministry of 'all translates into All praying, All working, All studying; All ministering. Reverend Lasenby believes that all of GOD's children have a place in ministry; and

WHEREAS, In 2013 Pastor Lasenby Sr., his wife Tracey and family came to Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago with a willingness to serve. He began his journey here working, and building up, and replacing all things that were not operating properly and adding new elements where needed. Under his leadership all Sunday morning worship services are now live streamed via TruthCasting. The churches website is ablaze with all of the activities depicting GOD's Will. Pastor Lasenby Sr. preaches with power and our worship experience is enhanced by his demonstrative sermons. Sermons seem to come alive as you watch him and listen to him preach!; and

WHEREAS, GOD adds to the church as he sees fit; therefore, the congregation at Pilgrim has grown to include more than 700 members. Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago's mission statement of 'CREATING AND CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF WORSHIP THAT GLORIFIES JESUS CHRIST', epitomizes the worship experience that is enjoyed at Pilgrim every Sunday by Reverend Lasenby. On September 24, 2017, Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago celebrates its'100th year church anniversary; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Cook County shall recognize the 100th year Anniversary of Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the permanent Record of Proceedings of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Corwin D. Lasenby, Sr. in recognition of this momentous occasion.

