



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 18-4508, **Version:** 1

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### **HONORING REVEREND WILLIAM MARTIN & TRUE VINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 100<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY TYPE THE TITLE OF YOUR RESOLUTION HERE**

**WHEREAS,** On Sunday, July 5, 2018, True Vine Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate its 100th Anniversary; and

**WHEREAS,** In July 1918, Reverend John Sharpe met with a group of 3 Baptist believers at 27<sup>th</sup> and Federal to share his vision of establishing a church. Four years later, True Vine Missionary Baptist Church moved to 3409 S. Dearborn and Rev. Sharpe served as pastor until October 1929; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1929, Rev. J.W. Stewart was installed as pastor of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church and the membership paid and burned the mortgage for the church in 1944; Four years later, the church was forced to sell the property due to new development and relocated to 5920-22 South State Street; and

**WHEREAS,** Rev. J.W. Stewart served as pastor until his demise on December 29, 1966 and the church remained without a pastor until Rev. Joe O. Bonds was called on September 3, 1967. The church was in great financial distress but within two years, the church became debt free and grew both spiritually and financially and began saving for a new church home; and

**WHEREAS,** In January 1979, True Vine Missionary Baptist Church congregation purchased the St. Bartholomew Church located at 6720 South Stewart for \$225,000 and on January 27, 1980 the congregation marched from 5920 South State to their new church home at 6720 S. Stewart on a cold winter snow day; and

**WHEREAS,** In July 1983, Pastor Bonds was elected Moderator of Salem Baptist District Association making True Vine the first church of the district. He faithfully served three successful years in that office; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1995, True Vine Missionary Baptist Church burned the mortgage to their current church home and Reverend Edwin Lee Jones became Assistant Pastor, and served as Pastor until 2014; and

**WHEREAS,** On August 13, 2014, Pastor William A. Martin was elected as Pastor of the True Vine Missionary Baptist Church. Under his leadership, True Vine offers several ministries to fully serve their community such as an Annual "Love Community Day", Community Fest and Health Fair, after school programs, and has also opened their doors to CPS Alternative Program to host violence prevention sessions. The church has partnered with the National Children Hunger Fund Program, providing lunches bi-weekly in addition to providing scholarships to eighth graders and high school students; and

**WHEREAS,** True Vine Missionary Baptist Church is a true beacon of hope for the Englewood community it has served for 100 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County Board of Commissioners, and on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County do hereby congratulate Pastor William A. Martin and True Vine Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and for the important and commendable service and leadership it provides to its congregation and surrounding community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a suitable copy of this resolution be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body and a ceremonial copy be given to Pastor William A. Martin in commemoration of this auspicious occasion.

**WHEREAS**, write your text in each clause, separate with a semicolon, each clause should end with this; and

**WHEREAS**, repeat this for as many Whereas clauses you have; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby do what you are suggesting or endorsing with this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this is where you ask for further action or where you ask for ceremonial copies of your resolution to be sent to the person or organizations being memorialized.