

2009-J6526

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the pastoral installation of The Reverend Conrad B. Tillard of Nazarene Congregation Church United of Christ

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those men and women of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the pastoral installation of The Reverend Conrad B. Tillard of Nazarene Congregation Church United of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Today, Reverend Conrad B. Tillard serves as the Sr. Pastor of Nazarene Congregational Church, a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation in the Bedford Stuyvesant community in Brooklyn, New York; his inaugural pastoral celebration took place on October 15-18, 2009 in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Selected in 2009 as "Pastor of the Year" in Brooklyn, New York by Church Women United and in 2005 and 2006 by Beliefnet.com as one of "The Most Influential Spiritual Black Leaders" in the United States, Reverend Conrad B. Tillard is an important ecclesiastical voice growing in America; he has been a student activist, minister and community activist for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, One of the oldest African-American congregations in the City of New York, Nazarene has a distinguished track record of service to the African-American community nationally; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Conrad B. Tillard was born September 15, 1964 in St. Louis, Missouri; he is a graduate of Francis L. Cardozo High School in Washington, D.C. and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in African

American Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia;
and

WHEREAS, Reverend Tillard has pursued graduate studies at both the Harvard Divinity School and Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government; he earned his Master of Divinity degree in systematic theology and Christian social ethics at The Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Tillard is also a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, where he earned a Master of Theology in practical theology, with a concentration in congregational ministry; he is a Baptist and Congregationalist (UCC) minister, licensed and ordained at historic Abyssinian Baptist Church of the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Tillard was trained and mentored in the Gospel ministry by The Reverend Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, Pastor of Abyssinian; he is affiliated with the United Missionary Baptist Association of New York, Empire Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., The American Baptist Churches USA and holds dual standing with the Metropolitan Association of the United Church of Christ New York Conference; and

WHEREAS, A lifetime member of the NAACP, and active in the organization's Brooklyn branch, Reverend Tillard previously served as the Project Director for New Yorkers for the Gulf Coast (NY4GC) an organization uniting leaders of the religious, business and entertainment sectors together to continue to provide support to victims of Hurricane Katrina; the organization is chaired by Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Reverend Tillard is the former Interim Pastor of the 170-year-old Eliot Congregational Church of Roxbury, located in inner-city Boston; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of

all; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Tamecca and their children Amir, Najmah, Conrad, Jr., Zuriel and Barack, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the first anniversary of the pastoral installation of The Reverend Conrad B. Tillard of Nazarene Congregation Church United of Christ; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Conrad B. Tillard.