

**BY:** Senator BRESLIN

**COMMENDING** The Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr.  
upon the occasion of his 10th Pastoral Anniversary  
at Sweet Pilgrim Baptist Church in Albany, New York

**WHEREAS,** The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals who distinguish themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. upon the occasion of his 10th Pastoral Anniversary; his official anniversary was on March 22, 2020; and

**WHEREAS,** A native of Albany, New York, Reverend Dr. Elgin Joseph Taylor, Sr. was born into a Christian home as well as into a family of Church musicians; at the young age of six, he was likewise gifted with the ministry of music as was his mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; and

**WHEREAS,** Pastor Elgin Taylor, Sr. received his formal education in the Albany Public School, graduating from Albany High School, Class of 1982, with the Harriett Sacca Award for Music Excellence; and

**WHEREAS,** He then earned a degree in Marketing and Business Administration from Albany Business College in 1985; in May of 2015, he received a Doctor of Divinity degree from All Christian Bible College of Long Island, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** For 36 years, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. was employed by the State of New York; he retired March 21, 2019, as the Affirmative Action Administrator for the Office of Diversity and Affirmation Action at NYS Department of Taxation and Finance; and

**WHEREAS,** Six generations of his family were dedicated to the fellowship of the historic Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, where he joined and was baptized at the age of seven; in December of 1985, he was ordained a Deacon and was elevated to serve as Chairman of the Board of Deacons for nine years; and

**WHEREAS,** Throughout the Capital District, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. not only instructs sacred and African-American religious music studies but has facilitated numerous music ministry workshops; and

**WHEREAS,** This year marks his 40th year in music ministry; for the past 35 years, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. served the Empire

Baptist Missionary Convention of New York, Inc. in various capacities, including: Director of Music, President of the Young People's Auxiliary, Director General of the Congress of Christian Education, General Secretary of the Convention, and in 2017, he was elevated to serve as the Convention's Vice President at Large; and

**WHEREAS,** He has been actively involved in the Hudson River Frontier Missionary Baptist Association, where among many offices such as President of the young People's Department, President of the Sunday School and BTU Congress and Director of Music, he was elevated to the position of Moderator, serving from 2013-2016; and

**WHEREAS,** Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. also served the Central Hudson Baptist Association as Director of Music and Vice President of the Congress of a Christian Education; and

**WHEREAS,** In June of 2015, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. was appointed as the first African American Chaplain of the Albany Fire Department in their 148 years of existence; and

**WHEREAS,** He accepted his call to the Gospel Ministry in June of 2005 and preached his initial sermon on Sunday, October 16, 2005; by unanimous vote to the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. was licensed to the Gospel Ministry; and

**WHEREAS,** On May 7, 2006, he joined the fellowship of the Shiloh Baptist Church of Hudson, New York, and was actively engaged in ministry, serving as Associate Minister, Executive Minister to the Pastor and Minister of Music; and

**WHEREAS,** On February 6, 2010, Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. was catechized by the Central Hudson Baptist Association of New York, Inc., and was recommended for ordination to the Gospel Ministry; and

**WHEREAS,** It was on Monday, March 22, 2010, the membership of the Sweet Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church of Albany, New York, elected Reverend Dr. Elgin Joseph Taylor, Sr. as their 7th pastor; and

**WHEREAS,** With him throughout has been his son, Elgin Joseph Taylor II, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; and

**WHEREAS,** Reverend Dr. Elgin Joseph Taylor, Sr. has brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; 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,** 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 commend The Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr. upon the occasion of his 10th Pastoral Anniversary at Sweet Pilgrim Baptist Church in Albany, New

York, noting his unrelenting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him the heartfelt best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Dr. Elgin J. Taylor, Sr.