

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING the Prince Hall Grand Council Royal and Select Masters in conjunction with the Emmett J. Avery Grand Court Ladies of The Circle of Perfection upon the occasion of their Joint Divine service March 8, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those esteemed fraternal and philanthropic institutions whose sacred traditions, moral instruction, and charitable works have strengthened families, uplifted communities, and fortified the spiritual foundation of our State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Prince Hall Grand Council Royal and Select Masters and the Emmett J. Avery Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection upon the auspicious occasion of their Joint Divine Service, to be held on March 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Prince Hall Freemasonry, founded upon the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, has long stood as a beacon of dignity, discipline, faith, and service within the African American community and beyond, cultivating men of integrity and leadership; and

WHEREAS, The Royal and Select Masters, as custodians of the Cryptic Rite, preserve sacred lessons of fidelity, preservation, and devotion, imparting teachings that call upon its Companions to walk uprightly and humbly among humanity; and

WHEREAS, The Emmett J. Avery Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, a distinguished body of devoted women aligned in purpose and spirit, exemplify grace, charity, and steadfast support of Masonic principles, strengthening the moral and spiritual fiber of their communities through sisterhood and service; and

WHEREAS, The Joint Divine Service stands as a sacred observance uniting Companions and Ladies in worship, reflection, and thanksgiving, and reaffirming their shared commitment to faith, fellowship, and the betterment of mankind; and

WHEREAS, Through charitable outreach, scholarship initiatives, mentorship, civic engagement, and unwavering moral leadership, these distinguished bodies continue to serve as pillars of strength, hope, and inspiration within their jurisdictions and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, The organizations believe that the solemnity and reverence of the Divine Service underscore the enduring truth that faith must guide service, and that leadership must be grounded in spiritual conviction and moral responsibility; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body recognize and commend the Prince Hall Grand Council Royal and Select Masters and the Emmett J.

Avery Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection upon the occasion of their Joint Divine Service on March 8, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body extend its sincere appreciation and best wishes for continued growth, unity, and service, and that a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the leadership of both esteemed bodies in recognition of this celebratory occasion.