

## 2011 SESSION

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 287

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled December 27, 2010

*Commending Bishop Levi Edgar Willis II.*

Patron—Miller, Y.B.

WHEREAS, Bishop Levi Edgar Willis II has humbly accepted the vote of confidence given by the Church of God in Christ, Inc., and stepped into the shoes once worn by his father as he becomes the Prelate of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the son of Hortense and the late Bishop Levi E. Willis, Sr., Bishop Willis accepted the call of God to minister at the tender age of 13; he became ordained as a licensed minister in 1969 at the age of 16; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Willis began a pastoral ministry in 1973 when he became co-pastor with his father and in 1978 was installed as pastor of the Garden of Prayer Cathedral; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Bishop Willis founded the Good News Family Worship Center and, in 2004, was appointed as one of the three administrative assistants to his father, the then Prelate of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2009, following the passing of his father, Bishop Willis was consecrated as the Bishop of the New Frontier Church of God in Christ—The Next Generation and installed as pastor of the Garden of Prayer Worship Center; and

WHEREAS, a visionary leader, Bishop Willis united the two ministries on January 3, 2010, into a powerful congregation that praises the Lord, studies the Word, and reaches out to those in need in the community; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Willis has been supported and upheld in all his endeavors by his loving family, including wife, Judith, and their children, Jasper, Jonathan, Tiffani, and the late Levi, who have also been involved in various forms of ministry; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Willis' consecration was celebrated at a festive and glorious Inaugural Banquet Celebration at Norfolk's Sheraton Waterside Hotel on March 19, 2010, with the Most Reverend Charles Edward Blake, Sr., Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., providing words of wisdom and faith to an appreciative audience; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Bishop Levi Edgar Willis II on his consecration as the Prelate of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Virginia, Church of God in Christ; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bishop Levi Edgar Willis II as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes in his future endeavors.

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