



Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

## A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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### IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To recognize and celebrate The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in Southeast, DC, on the occasion of its 70<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary and Rev. Dr. Kendrick. E. Curry's 20<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary, for the exceptional dedication and service to both its members and community.

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church was constituted and established on May 30, 1945;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church purchased the adjoining lot on the corner of 30<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue from the Seventh Day Adventists in 1955;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church celebrated its groundbreaking ceremony, marking the beginning of the construction of the chapel that was inaugurated for worship on Sunday, June 16, 1957, signifying a pivotal moment in the church's history;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in 1988, created the Maise-Inman Scholarship to assist high school students in their efforts to attend college;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in the spring of 1998, named the fellowship hall after Harvey Hall in tribute to William "Bill" Harvey, a cherished charter member and Deacon whose invaluable contributions were pivotal in upkeeping the church's property;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in 2001, appointed Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haggray making him the first African-American pastor of PABC;

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church partnered with civic, social, and professional groups including AARP and Ward 7 & 8 Prevention Center to help bring about communal transformation;

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Prairie View A&M University, M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of

Michigan, and a Masters of Divinity from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University;

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry championed a food distribution partnership that reached over 4000 people monthly since the COVID-19 pandemic, while also held the first COVID-19 vaccination clinic at a church in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry serves as the Interim General Secretary for the Progressive National Baptist Convention, serving as a board member for the District of Columbia Baptist Foundation, formerly President and Interim Executive Director of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, serves on the Community Advisory Board for the Howard College of Medicine, and serves on the Board of Directors for Education Forward DC;

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry in 2018, celebrated 15 years of pastoring PABC, making him the longest serving pastor in the church's history;

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry founded ElectED DC, a non-profit 501c4 organization who seeks to build political power to empower Ward 7 & 8 communities East of the Anacostia River;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church and Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry Retirement Resolution of 2023".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church on its 70<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary and Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry for years of dedication and service to the community in the District.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.