

REPRESENTATIVE WEDDINGTON

*Honoring St. Mark's Lodge 7
of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons
on its One Hundred Sixtieth Anniversary.*

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate St. Mark's Lodge 7 of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons on the memorable occasion of its One Hundred Sixtieth Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, St. Mark's Lodge 7 was created on January 16, 1852, as the first Prince Hall Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the City of Columbus and the fourth such lodge in the State of Ohio, and during years of oppression, it provided one of the few places where African Americans could go for entertainment and recreational activities. In addition to its involvement in the development of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, with several of its members holding statewide offices, St. Mark's helped to start a Masonic school, found other lodges, and institute new programs and rituals, and it dedicated the first newly constructed Masonic temple in Ohio on January 15, 1927; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, St. Mark's Lodge 7 of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons has enhanced the quality of life within Central Ohio, earning the gratitude and respect of countless citizens. Its accomplishments are a justifiable source of pride and an outstanding reflection not only on the organization itself but also on its members, on the community, and on the Free and Accepted Masons as a whole; and

WHEREAS, The members of St. Mark's Lodge 7 of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, both past and present, have distinguished themselves as conscientious and hard-working Ohioans, and they are truly deserving of high praise, for their donations of time, energy, and abilities have resulted in the completion of many necessary and beneficial projects. We are certain that as this worthy group maintains its dedication to service, it will continue in the tradition of excellence that has long been the hallmark of Freemasonry; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, commend St. Mark's Lodge 7 of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons on its One Hundred Sixtieth Anniversary and extend best wishes for ongoing success; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to St. Mark's Lodge 7 of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons.