

1.1 A Senate resolution
1.2 honoring Rev. Dr. Earl Fredrick Miller, Sr. on the occasion of his retirement.

1.3 **WHEREAS**, Rev. Dr. Earl Fredrick Miller, Sr. was born on March 17, 1941, to Earl Lee
1.4 Miller and Melvin Gamble Miller; and

1.5 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Miller's academic attendance at Jackson State University, University of
1.6 Illinois, Virginia Union University, and Union Theological Seminary yielded a bachelor's degree
1.7 and master's and doctorate degrees; and

1.8 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Miller's 48-year journey in ministry includes service as Senior Pastor of
1.9 Mount Olive Baptist Church, Glen Allen, Virginia (1972-1977); Senior Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist
1.10 Church, St. Paul, Minnesota (1977-1992); and Founder/Senior Pastor of Progressive Baptist Church,
1.11 St. Paul, Minnesota (1992-2017); and

1.12 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Miller's service to the State of Minnesota includes leadership of the St.
1.13 Paul Planning Commission, Minnesota Council of Churches, Minnesota State Baptist Convention,
1.14 St. Paul Interdenominational Black Ministerial Alliance, Rainbow Children's Theatre, Pilgrim
1.15 Foundation for Urban, Social and Educational Development, St. Paul NAACP, P.R.O.C.E.E.D.,
1.16 and a host of other initiatives; and

1.17 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Miller served as Professor at Augsburg College, Bethel University Seminary,
1.18 and Virginia Union School of Theology, and as Dean of Student Affairs, Director of Field Education,
1.19 and Director of Bands at Virginia Union University; and

1.20 **WHEREAS**, for over 25 years, Dr. Miller played the lead role in the internationally acclaimed
1.21 and Obie Award-winning musical "The Gospel at Colonus," was named one of the "10 Most
1.22 Influential Clergy in the Twin Cities" by Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine, is a 2009 Minnesota
1.23 African American Heritage Calendar honoree, and was a recipient of numerous awards, including
1.24 the Boy Scouts of America Spurgeon Award; and

2.1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Miller is known locally, nationally, and internationally as a respected
2.2 preacher, scholar, and community leader, but attributes his accomplishments to his wife of 55 years,
2.3 Eunice Miller; his three adult children, Frettra (Rohan), Earl, Jr. (Aisha), and Melvin (Tonya); 13
2.4 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and members and friends of Progressive Baptist Church;
2.5 and

2.6 **WHEREAS**, friends and family will unite together May 25-28, 2017, to celebrate and honor
2.7 Rev. Dr. Earl Fredrick Miller, Sr. as he retires from 48 years of service and is installed as Pastor
2.8 Emeritus of Progressive Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota; and

2.9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it
2.10 congratulates Rev. Dr. Earl Fredrick Miller, Sr. on his long and distinguished career of service in
2.11 ministry, and extends best wishes to him for his retirement.

2.12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an
2.13 enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the
2.14 Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Rev. Dr. Earl Fredrick
2.15 Miller, Sr.