

*BY ALDS. HAMILTON, RAINEY, COGGS, STAMPER, BORKOWSKI, WITKOWSKI, PÉREZ, LEWIS, JOHNSON, DODD*

*Resolution recognizing and congratulating Verdie Lee Drake on the occasion of her 90th birthday.*

**WHEREAS,**

## **VERDIE LEE DRAKE**

*celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 26, 2019; and*

**WHEREAS,** *On May 26, 1929, Verdie Lee Wall was born in McCarley, Mississippi to the union of Arthur Wall, Jr. and Madie (Bibb) Wall – the third eldest child born to this union – and from a young age, she was an excellent student, sister daughter and a devout Christian, exhibiting strong faith in God throughout her entire life; and*

**WHEREAS,** *On November 15, 1947, Verdie Lee was wed in holy matrimony to Henry James Drake, also of McCarley, Mississippi, and this union lasted for 50 years, until Henry's passing on March 3, 1998, and to this union, six children were born: Delores, Rayford, James, Henry Jr, Deborah and Victor; and like many others as part of the Great Northern Migration, Mrs. Drake became a permanent resident of Milwaukee in 1953; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Verdie Lee Drake conveyed her love for education and motivation to be successful to her own children, numerous nieces and nephews, and every child with whom she came in contact at church, in her neighborhood and in her role as an educator, and she was a dedicated teacher for Day Care Services for Children for 21 years, where she helped to shape the minds of many young Milwaukeeans, and she also played a role in establishing a union for workers at Day Care Services for Children and was instrumental in implementing better wages and work conditions for all employees of the company; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Verdie Lee Drake has been a faithful member of Mt. Zion Assembly Healing Temple for nearly 60 years, and she joined the church first under the leadership of Bishop Dr. Earl Parchia, and now under the leadership of his daughter, Monica Parchia Scott; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Verdie Lee Drake on the occasion of her 90th birthday and extends to her its sincere wishes for her continued health and happiness; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Verdie Lee Drake in recognition of her 90th birthday.*

**Introduced by Common Council members Ashanti Hamilton, Khalif J. Rainey, Milele A. Coggs, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark A. Borkowski, Terry L. Witkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis,**

***Cavalier Johnson and Nikiya Dodd and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on May 29, 2019.***