Introduced by Council Member Priestly Jackson and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Morgan, Diamond, Bowman, Newby, DeFoor, Becton and Gaffney:

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RESOLUTION 2021-493-A

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARVIN CLYDE ZANDERS, II UPON HIS ELECTION AS BISHOP OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH; PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Marvin Clyde Zanders, II was raised in Orlando, Florida by his parents the late Marvin C. Zanders, Sr. and Mrs. Jacquelyn Johnson Bain. He attended public schools in Orange County, graduated from Edgewater High School, and then received his academic preparation from Morehouse College and The Theological Seminary at The Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Marvin Clyde Zanders, II is married to Winifred Houston Zanders, and they are the proud parents of Marvin Frank Curtis Zanders and Micah Van Zanders. Since November 2000, Pastor Zanders has been assigned to the Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the oldest churches in Jacksonville. Under his leadership, the church has experienced outstanding fiscal stewardship, along with substantial growth and development; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his devotion to family and his ministry to the St. Paul's congregation, Pastor Zanders dedicated his time to numerous civic groups and public service. He has served as the Advisor to the Chairman and the First Vice Chairman of the Episcopal Committee of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, been a member of the Executive Committee of the General Board as well as the Vice Chairman of the Commission of Global Witness and Ministry of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, is the Treasurer for the Eleventh Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and is the Co-Organizer of the Clay County Minority Coalition as well as a Board Member for the Duval County Partners for Education. Marvin Zanders is also an active member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, a 32° Mason PHA - Champion Lodge #2 and Tillman Valentine Consistory #22; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2021, over 1600 delegates of the church's supreme governance body met to review and change the denomination's laws and policies, receive reports from its agencies, and elect denominational leadership. On that day four new bishops were elected to the African Methodist Episcopal Church by majority vote at the 51st Quadrennial Session of the General Conference in Orlando. Bishop Zanders will now serve the 16th AME District (Caribbean, South America and Europe) and notably is the first Morehouse College graduate elected as a Bishop in AME Church history; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

Section 1. The City of Jacksonville hereby commends Bishop Marvin Clyde Zanders, II upon his election as bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. City Council appreciates his years of service to our community, his spiritual guidance and support for his congregation, and his lifelong devotion to transforming lives through hope and faith.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.