



HR0538

LRB100 13467 MST 28072 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Henry
4 Cowherd of Aurora, who passed away on July 12, 2017; and

5 WHEREAS, Henry Cowherd was born on May 19, 1924 and raised
6 on the east side of Aurora; he graduated from East Aurora High
7 School in 1945, where he was a member of the student council,
8 the Boys Club, the Hi-Y Club, and a three-sport athlete; and

9 WHEREAS, Henry Cowherd worked at the Burgess Norton Company
10 for 34 years; during that time, he was involved in East Aurora
11 schools; he was the first African-American elected to the board
12 of education, serving 13 years; and

13 WHEREAS, Henry Cowherd was a member of the East Aurora
14 Dad's Club, the East Aurora Parents Association, the East
15 Aurora Sports Boosters, the Aurora East Educational
16 Foundation, and the East Aurora Old Timers Association; he also
17 served with the Aurora Human Relations Commission, the
18 Rush-Copley Board of Directors, the Aurora Area CrimeStoppers
19 Board of Directors, and the Kiwanis Club; he was an Upstate
20 Eight Conference official and worked with numerous other
21 community organizations; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1991, the East Aurora Board of Education
2 unanimously voted to name the district's third middle school
3 after Henry Cowherd; in 2008, Aurora's African-American
4 Heritage Advisory Board named him as the Outstanding Leader of
5 the Year and subsequently named the board's college scholarship
6 program in his honor; in 2015, the City of Aurora honored him
7 and his wife, Caroline, as grand marshals of the Fourth of July
8 parade; and

9 WHEREAS, Henry Cowherd and Carolyn were married for 70
10 years; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 mourn the passing of Henry Cowherd, and extend our sincere
14 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
15 him; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Henry Cowherd as an expression of
18 our deepest sympathy.