



HR0397

LRB103 33855 MST 63670 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Rev. Dr. Joseph Edward "Joe" Hill, who passed away on July 7, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Hill was born in St. Louis, Missouri to Minnie and Joseph Hill on October 12, 1945; he graduated from Divoll Elementary School and Vashon High School in St. Louis, where he was part of the track team, sang in the school choir, and was inducted into the National Honor Society; he received his bachelor's degree in education from Harris-Stowe State College, where he pledged the Omega Psi Phi fraternity as an undergraduate and was elected Basileus of the Omicron Sigma Chapter; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Hill taught at Soldan International Studies High School and then in the Banneker District; as he launched his career at IBM, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he spent two years overseas based in Seoul, South Korea as a combat medic and also taught school, mostly in adult education; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Hill returned to the U.S. and continued to pursue his education; he obtained three master's degrees, one in higher education and two in political science from

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1 Northeastern Illinois University and the University of
2 Illinois at Chicago Circle; following this, he gained
3 experience at Educational Developmental Laboratories in New
4 York City before relocating to Chicago, where he worked as a
5 teacher within the Chicago Public School system; during this
6 period, he pursued his doctorate in business management; and

7 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill began his career with AT&T as an
8 account executive in 1979, specializing in major financial
9 markets; he consistently demonstrated exceptional performance,
10 placing him among the top 5% of AT&T Achievers Club members for
11 multiple years; and

12 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill was a member of Abyssinian Baptist
13 Church in New York and Fellowship Baptist Church in Chicago
14 and a longtime member of Christ Universal Temple (CUT), where
15 he was ordained as a minister; at CUT, he taught classes at the
16 Johnnie Coleman Institute and later served as the chief
17 operating officer; and

18 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill established the Power Circle Institute
19 and founded Power Circle Congregation, Inc. in 1996; he was
20 senior minister for a total of 27 years and authored six books;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill was a practical joker; he loved to

1 scare his sisters and make others squeal and holler; he also
2 loved to go to the casino with his family and friends; and

3 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill was preceded in death by his sister,
4 Barbara Scott; and

5 WHEREAS, Rev. Hill is survived by his sisters, Yvonne
6 Hopper and Marilyn Louise Holmes; his brother, Keith Byron
7 Hill; his niece, Danielle Bush; his nephews, Anthony White II,
8 Keith Joseph Hill, Desmond Scott, and Jonathan Holmes; and his
9 cousins, Godchildren, friends, and fellow ministerial
10 associates; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we mourn the passing of Rev. Dr. Joseph Edward "Joe" Hill and
14 extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all
15 who knew and loved him; and be it further

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