



HR0317

LRB104 13468 LAW 25899 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Cheryl
4 F. Green, Ph.D., who passed away on April 23, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Green originally hailed from Chicago; she
6 received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Manchester
7 College, now Manchester University, in North Manchester,
8 Indiana, and she earned her master's degree and her Ph.D. in
9 Counseling Psychology from Southern Illinois University
10 Carbondale; she also obtained several National Incident
11 Management System certificates from the U.S. Federal Emergency
12 Management Institute; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Green served as the sixth president of
14 Governors State University beginning on July 1, 2020, becoming
15 the university's first Black president in the process; during
16 her tenure, she built a lasting legacy of academic excellence
17 coupled with successful accreditation while supporting the
18 mission of Governors State University, serving as a visionary
19 and an inspiring leader who was deeply committed to advancing
20 programs, initiatives, and scholarship across Chicago's
21 Southland and the State of Illinois, advocating for equity in
22 funding and supporting social mobility; she was instrumental
23 in fostering a campus-wide culture of inclusion and belonging,

1 dedicating significant efforts to the establishment of a
2 number of initiatives, including the Honors College, the
3 College of Graduate Studies, the Latinx Center, and the Social
4 Justice Initiative Building, while also supporting a wide
5 range of educational and community outreach activities; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Green led a distinguished career in higher
7 education for more than 36 years, previously serving as vice
8 chancellor for student affairs at the University of Wisconsin
9 (UW) Oshkosh, interim chancellor for UW Whitewater, and
10 assistant vice president for student affairs at Tennessee
11 State University (TSU); before her time at TSU, she served
12 Chicago State University in a variety of administrative and
13 academic roles, including as director/chair of the counseling
14 department, inaugural dean of first-year students, acting
15 associate director of career placement, and as a tenured
16 associate professor of counseling; she also served as the
17 statewide representative for 2,700 faculty and staff of seven
18 public universities in her role as grievance officer for the
19 University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) Local 4100; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Green remained committed to making a
21 difference through her service to the community, which spanned
22 the United States and included serving on several different
23 advisory boards or boards of directors, including the
24 Manchester University Board of Trustees, the Association of

1 Governing Boards (ABG) Council of Presidents, the inaugural
2 Presidential Ambassadors Council of the Association of
3 International Education Administrators (AIEA), the Will County
4 Center for Economic Development Board of Directors, the
5 Southland Development Authority Board of Directors, the Howard
6 Hughes Medical Institute STEM Grant Advisory Board of UW
7 Madison, the Forward 50 Advisory Board for the National
8 Association of Student and Financial Aid Administrators, and
9 the Milwaukee-based Gift of Adoption Wisconsin Board of
10 Directors; she was also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha
11 Sorority, Inc. and the Will County Black Diamond Chapter of
12 the Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., and she was a Silver Life
13 Member of the National Association for the Advancement of
14 Colored People (NAACP); and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Green received a number of accolades,
16 including being named to Crain Chicago Business's 2021 Notable
17 Black Leaders and Executives list, a Woman of First
18 Distinction by the Illinois Black Hall of Fame, one of the 2022
19 Top 50 Women Leaders of Illinois by Women We Admire, an
20 honorary grand marshal of the 2022 Bud Billiken Parade, and a
21 2023 Business Leader of Color by Chicago United; she also
22 received the 2022 Excellence in Education Award by the Central
23 Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the
24 2023 Outstanding Commitment in Education Award by the Illinois
25 State Treasurer; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Green was widely respected and admired by
2 Governors State University students, faculty, staff,
3 administration, the board of trustees, professional
4 colleagues, and the broader academic community for her
5 exceptional servant leadership, steadfast dedication, and
6 significant contributions to higher education throughout her
7 tenure as president; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Green was the mother of two adult children;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we mourn the passing of Cheryl F. Green, Ph.D. and extend our
13 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
14 and loved her; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to Dr. Green as an expression of our esteem and
17 respect.