



HR0634

LRB104 20380 MST 33837 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 Herman  
4 Edward Shaw of Edwardsville, who passed away on January 12,  
5 2026; and

6           WHEREAS, Herman Shaw was born in Union, Missouri to Robert  
7 L. Shaw and Ethel L. Aitch-Shaw on April 5, 1934; he began his  
8 education in Union, Missouri, and when his family moved to  
9 Edwardsville in 1944, he continued his education at Lincoln  
10 School during the time of segregation; after school  
11 integration, he transferred to Edwardsville High School as a  
12 sophomore in 1951; in his first year, he became the first  
13 African American student to receive a varsity letter, and by  
14 the time he graduated in 1953, he had earned ten varsity  
15 letters in football, basketball, track, baseball, and A  
16 Cappella choir; and

17           WHEREAS, Herman Shaw attended Illinois State University on  
18 a football scholarship; after two years, he chose to serve his  
19 country by enlisting in the United States Army, where he  
20 served with the military police; and

21           WHEREAS, Herman Shaw began his professional career as a  
22 recreational therapist at Alton State Hospital; during this

1 time, he began working with at-risk students as a counselor in  
2 the University City School District and also attended Webster  
3 University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and  
4 Education; he then became an administrator at University City  
5 Senior High School, where he served with dedication for 32  
6 years until his retirement; and

7 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw demonstrated through his actions a  
8 deep commitment to the Edwardsville community, particularly to  
9 the education and well-being of children; he and fellow  
10 Lincoln School alumni co-founded the Historic Lincoln School  
11 Alumni Foundation in 1986, and under his leadership, the  
12 organization awarded scholarships to high school graduates and  
13 college students, supported families during the holiday  
14 season, and provided assistance in countless other ways; and

15 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw was inducted into the Edwardsville  
16 Athletic Hall of Fame as part of its second re-charter class in  
17 2023; and

18 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw was deeply involved in the arts and  
19 education and was a founding board member of the Edwardsville  
20 Symphony; he also enjoyed fishing, golfing, hunting, and  
21 bowling; and

22 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw was known for his generosity, and it

1 was not unusual to see him picking up food and delivering it to  
2 homes, churches, and food pantries or cutting someone's grass;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw was preceded in death by his parents;  
5 his sisters, Roberta and Cecilia; his brother, Earl; and a  
6 special son, Kyle Dickerson; and

7 WHEREAS, Herman Shaw is survived by his daughters, Juanita  
8 and Cora Shaw; his devoted life partner, Elizabeth Nash; his  
9 brother, Harry (Christiana) Shaw; his sister, Carolyn (Jack)  
10 Turner; his special daughter, Iva-Surette Washum; his  
11 grandchildren, Nakita, Malcolm, Micah, and Riley; his  
12 great-grandchildren, Vincent, Navi, and Nalonni; and numerous  
13 extended family and friends; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16 we mourn the passing of Herman Edward Shaw and extend our  
17 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
18 and loved him; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of Herman Shaw as a symbol of our  
21 deepest sympathy.