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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Louis D. Burrell is a distinguished educator,  
3 community developer, civic leader, and advocate whose lifelong  
4 service has profoundly shaped the educational, economic, and  
5 social fabric of the City of Kankakee; and

6           WHEREAS, Louis Burrell dedicated 39 years of exemplary  
7 service as a professional educator within the Chicago Public  
8 School system, serving with distinction as a history teacher,  
9 physical education teacher, and assistant principal,  
10 positively influencing generations of students through  
11 academic excellence, leadership development, and character  
12 formation; and

13           WHEREAS, Louis Burrell, during his tenure with Chicago  
14 Public Schools, demonstrated steadfast commitment to  
15 professional advocacy and educator leadership, serving as a  
16 delegate for the CPS Teachers' Union and a representative for  
17 the CPS Teachers' Association, ensuring the voices and rights  
18 of educators were represented with integrity and resolve; and

19           WHEREAS, Louis Burrell, as a community developer, founded  
20 and established Louis D. Burrell Builders, through which he  
21 constructed 18 buildings on the north side of Kankakee,  
22 creating safe, stable, and affordable housing opportunities

1 that benefited hundreds of residents and strengthened  
2 neighborhood vitality; and

3 WHEREAS, Louis Burrell, as a civil rights activist, is a  
4 proud member of the NAACP, continuing a legacy of advocacy,  
5 equity, and justice for underserved communities; and

6 WHEREAS, Louis Burrell has demonstrated deep civic  
7 engagement through public service, including his role as  
8 Kankakee First Ward Committeeman, and through his work as  
9 campaign manager for numerous local political leaders,  
10 contributing to democratic participation and responsible  
11 governance; and

12 WHEREAS, Louis Burrell is committed to fellowship,  
13 service, and leadership through his membership in the Men of  
14 Progress Social Club of Kankakee, the Masonic Lodge of  
15 Kankakee, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, which he pledged  
16 at Purdue University, upholding principles of manhood,  
17 scholarship, perseverance, and uplift; and

18 WHEREAS, Louis Burrell's greatest legacy, beyond his  
19 professional and civic achievements, is his family, where he  
20 serves as father of eight, grandfather of 16,  
21 great-grandfather of 28, and great-great-grandfather of three,  
22 whose lives reflect his values, guidance, and enduring

1 influence; and

2 WHEREAS, Louis Burrell's life and work exemplify  
3 dedication to education, community development, civic  
4 leadership, and generational impact; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
6 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7 we declare February 2, 2026 as "Louis D. Burrell Day" in the  
8 State of Illinois in honor of his extraordinary lifetime of  
9 contributions and the legacy he continues to build; and be it  
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That we wish Louis Burrell a happy 88th  
12 birthday; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the members of the Illinois House of  
14 Representatives are encouraged to observe this day by  
15 celebrating the vital role of educators, builders, advocates,  
16 and elders whose service strengthens communities and inspires  
17 future generations.