



HR0189

LRB101 11564 MST 57493 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 Sidney Gray Miller Jr., a 50-year resident of Illinois' 25th District, who passed away on November 12, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Sidney Miller was born on March 9, 1930 at Cook County Hospital and grew up an only child to Leverta Bates Miller and Rev. Sydney G. Miller Sr., a Baptist preacher who instilled a sense of service to the less fortunate by operating a soup kitchen out of their home on Sundays during the Great Depression; and

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WHEREAS, Sidney Miller joined the Illinois National Guard while attending DuSable High School and achieved the rank of Master Sergeant before turning 21 years old; and

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WHEREAS, Sidney Miller began his undergraduate education at the University of Illinois Navy Pier extension, now the University of Illinois at Chicago, before transferring to the Urbana-Champaign campus to major in physical education and become a proud member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity; and

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WHEREAS, After earning his bachelor's degree in 1954, Sidney Miller was drafted into the United States Army, serving

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1 for almost two years before being honorably discharged and
2 returning to school to receive a master's degree in education;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, After graduating, Sidney Miller began working at
5 Chicago's Marshall School as a physical education teacher,
6 track and field coach, and athletic director; and

7 WHEREAS, During his time at Marshall, Sidney Miller led his
8 track team to a 1967 City Championship and a third place finish
9 in the Illinois State championships; he served as a vital
10 mentor to the young men under his leadership, inspiring many of
11 them to follow his footsteps by becoming teachers and coaches;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller left Marshall School, where he was
14 awarded honorary membership into the Marshall High School
15 Alumni Association Hall of Fame, to become an associate
16 professor and coach the brand-new track and field team at
17 Chicago Teacher's College, now Chicago State University; and

18 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller continued his education at
19 Roosevelt University, where he earned a doctorate in
20 educational administration, in addition to gaining an advanced
21 certificate in education; and

1 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller remained active in professional
2 athletic organizations throughout his life; and

3 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller was devoted to arts and culture; he
4 supported organizations including the Jazz Institute of
5 Chicago, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, and the Chicago Jazz
6 Philharmonic and enjoyed pursuing his passions for photography
7 and travel; and

8 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller was an active member of Trinity
9 United Church of Christ and is remembered by his friends and
10 family for his zeal for life, compassion for all, and service
11 to his community; and

12 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller was preceded in death by his wife,
13 Elizabeth; and

14 WHEREAS, Sidney Miller is survived by his children, Steven,
15 Sabrina, and Dena and his grandson, DeVante Sherod; therefore,
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we mourn the passing of Sidney Gray Miller Jr. and extend our
20 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
21 and loved him; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Sidney Miller as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy.