



HR0387

LRB103 33375 LAW 63187 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 James
4 Schine "Jim" Crown, who passed away on June 25, 2023; and

5 WHEREAS, James Crown was born to Lester and Renée (Schine)
6 Crown in Chicago on June 25, 1953; he graduated from New Trier
7 East High School in Winnetka in 1971; he earned his bachelor's
8 degree in political science from Hampshire College in Amherst,
9 Massachusetts in 1976; he completed his law degree at Stanford
10 University; he married Paula Hannaway in 1985; and

11 WHEREAS, After earning his law degree, James Crown began
12 working for Salomon Brothers, the New York City investment
13 bank, becoming vice president in 1983; after he and his wife
14 moved to Chicago, he joined the family investment firm, Henry
15 Crown and Company, where he served as chairman and CEO; and

16 WHEREAS, James Crown additionally served as director of
17 General Dynamics, a member of the board of directors of
18 JPMorgan Chase & Co., board chair of the Aspen Institute, and
19 chairman of the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of
20 Chicago; and

21 WHEREAS, James Crown was an early supporter of Barack

1 Obama after meeting him in 2003; he raised thousands of
2 dollars in support of Obama's political campaigns for the U.S.
3 Senate and the presidency, becoming Obama's chief presidential
4 fundraiser in Illinois; he was appointed by then-President
5 Obama to serve on the Intelligence Advisory Board, an
6 independent group that advises the president on the
7 effectiveness and goals of U.S. intelligence agencies; and

8 WHEREAS, James Crown was an avid philanthropist, donating
9 his time and funds to various entities and organizations,
10 including the University of Chicago, where he served as the
11 chairman of the university's board of trustees from 2003 to
12 2009; he and his wife, Paula, additionally donated \$75 million
13 to the university in 2021; in turn, his family was honored when
14 the university renamed its social services school as the Crown
15 Family School of Social Work, Policy and Practice; and

16 WHEREAS, More recently, James Crown concentrated his
17 efforts on addressing the issue of gun violence in Chicago by
18 encouraging the city's business leaders to create thousands of
19 jobs in underserved areas of the city, providing millions of
20 dollars for civilian violence intervention programs, and
21 supporting law enforcement and low-income communities; and

22 WHEREAS, James Crown, who kept a home in Aspen, was also an
23 avid skier and a managing partner of the Aspen Skiing Company,

1 which operates a resort; and

2 WHEREAS, James Crown was a big-hearted, kind, and
3 charitable individual who tirelessly fought for a better world
4 for all, believed in the power of civic engagement, treated
5 everyone with dignity and respect, and truly embodied the soul
6 of Chicago; he will be remembered as an exemplary example of a
7 great American; and

8 WHEREAS, James Crown is survived by his wife; his parents,
9 his brothers, Steve and Daniel; his sisters, Patricia "PC",
10 Susan, Sara, and Janet Crown; his daughters, Torie, Hayley,
11 and Summer Crown; his son, W. Andrew Crown; and two grandsons;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we mourn the passing of James Schine "Jim" Crown and extend our
16 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
17 and loved him; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of James Crown as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.