



SR1138

LRB103 41938 LAW 75160 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Fernando Reynard Shipley, who passed away on August 3, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley was born in Florence, Alabama on August 2, 1953; he resided in Tuscumbia, Alabama until the age of three, when he and his family moved to Flint, Michigan before moving to Waukegan, Illinois two years later; he attended Andrew Cooke and Novak Elementary Schools and Thomas Jefferson Middle School; he attended Waukegan High School until his junior year, playing basketball for three years; at the end of his junior year, he and his family moved to North Chicago; he graduated from North Chicago High School in 1972, where he played on the basketball team that made it to the super sectionals; he attended the College of Lake County; and

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WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley worked at the Lake County Health Department before becoming a correctional officer assigned to the jail in Lake County; he was hired at the Waukegan Police Department in September 1979, working in patrol, investigations, and traffic before becoming a sergeant; he was then named commander of the Juvenile Bureau; he cofounded the Waukegan Chapter of Mothers Against Gangs and served as a member of the Lake County Major Crime Task Force; he was then

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1 promoted to lieutenant, retiring from the police force in  
2 2004; he then served as an investigator for the State of  
3 Illinois Appellate Defender's Office and worked several  
4 security jobs before finally retiring; and

5 WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley was a spiritual man and a public  
6 servant dedicated to serving his community; he was elected to  
7 the Waukegan Community Unit School District #60 Board of  
8 Education in 2003, where he served for two years before  
9 becoming board president; he also worked on many initiatives  
10 with members of the community, served as a mentor to many young  
11 men, and worked to bridge the gap between community, families,  
12 and law enforcement; and

13 WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley was recognized throughout his  
14 career and life; he was named Patrolman of the Year and the  
15 Waukegan Exchange Club Officer of the Year and was a two-time  
16 nominee for Supervisor of the Year by the Waukegan Police  
17 Department; he also received the Lake County Political  
18 Leadership Award as Most Influential African-American, a  
19 proclamation from the Waukegan City Council for his work on  
20 several high-profile cases, a resolution as a member of the  
21 Lake County Major Crime Task Force, the Waukegan Community  
22 School District #60 Appreciation Award, the Black Diamond  
23 Community Service Award, and the 2019 Drum Major Award from  
24 the Waukegan Township; and

1           WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley was preceded in death by his  
2 mother, Eloise Applewhite; his father, Charles Shipley Sr.;  
3 his brothers, Charles Shipley Jr. and Michael Malone; his  
4 grandmother, Virginia Drumgood; his uncles, Jack Brown, Edward  
5 Mullins, and Lewis Mullins; and his father-in-law, Harvey B.  
6 Ricks; and

7           WHEREAS, Fernando Shipley is survived by his wife of 46  
8 years, Dr. Harlene (Ricks) Shipley; his son, Matthew (Erica)  
9 Eliot; his daughter, Rochelle Lynee; his grandchildren, Jayden  
10 Matthew and Scarlett Grace; his sister, Jacqueline (John)  
11 Joanem; his mother-in-law, Helen (Harvey) Ricks; his  
12 siblings-in-law, Valerie Ricks and Wayne Ricks; and a host of  
13 cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
16 Fernando Reynard Shipley and extend our sincere condolences to  
17 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
18 further

19           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of Fernando Shipley as an expression  
21 of our deepest sympathy.