



HR0944

LRB098 20662 GRL 57343 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 Thornal Washington, who passed away on March 15, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Thornal Washington was born on May 28, 1924; he married Opal Warren on April 15, 1943; together, they had 2 children, Victor Washington and Gail Johnson; and

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WHEREAS, Thornal Washington was a graduate of Dunbar High School in Texarkana, Texas and earned his bachelor's degree from Governors State University; and

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WHEREAS, Thornal Washington made a career out of civic service to the younger residents of Chicago Heights; he began his career in civic service in 1949, when he organized the Chicago Heights Improvement Association and served on the Board of Directors for 10 years; from 1951 to 1961, he served as an Advisory Board Member of Girl Scout Troop #621 in Chicago Heights; from 1951 to 1994, he served as a Board of Directors member and fiscal administrator of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago Heights; from 1957 to 1966, he served as a member of the Chicago Heights Planning Commission; from 1957 to 1963, he served as the business manager for the Chicago Heights Community Choir; from 1957 to 1961, he served as chief

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1 organizer and coach of the Kool Kids Girls Softball Team in
2 Chicago Heights from 1959 to 1967, he served as a community
3 service worker for the Illinois Youth Commission; and

4 WHEREAS, From 1960 to 1962, Thornal Washington served as
5 Chairman of the South Suburban Law and Order Committee; in
6 1960, he organized and established the Chicago Heights
7 Community Youth Committee; in 1961, he organized and
8 established the East Chicago Heights Community Youth
9 Committee; from 1968 to 1973, he served as Corrections
10 Community Service Worker for the Illinois Department of
11 Corrections, Juvenile Division, Community Services; in 1971,
12 he organized a series of state-wide Governor's Conferences on
13 Youth; from 1973 to 1976, he served as Corrections Community
14 Service Supervisor for the Illinois Department of Corrections;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, In 1974, Thornal Washington organized Hickory
17 House, a group home for juvenile boys, in Chicago Heights; in
18 1974, he served as liaison for Bloom, Thornton, and Rich High
19 Schools to address the issue of student unrest, drugs,
20 vandalism, and assault; in 1975, he served as a member of the
21 Task Force on Regionalization for the Illinois Department of
22 Corrections; and in 1976, he served on the Illinois Commission
23 on Delinquency Prevention, which replaced the Community
24 Service Unit, for the Illinois Department of Corrections; and

1 WHEREAS, Thornal Washington served as Executive Director
2 of the Chicago Heights Community Youth Committee District
3 Supervisor for the Chicago Area Project for over 20 years; and

4 WHEREAS, For over 50 years, Thornal Washington dedicated
5 his life to serving the younger residents of Chicago Heights;
6 his dedication, commitment, and service set an example for them
7 to follow for generations to come; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we, along with his family and friends, mourn the passing of
11 Thornal Washington; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Thornal Washington as an expression
14 of our sympathy.