



HR0712

LRB099 13959 GRL 37963 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 Julian  
4 Bond, who passed away on August 15, 2015; and

5           WHEREAS, Horace Julian Bond, generally known as Julian  
6 Bond, was born in Nashville, Tennessee on January 14, 1940; 5  
7 years later, his family moved to Pennsylvania, where his father  
8 served as the first African-American President of Lincoln  
9 University; and

10           WHEREAS, In 1957, Julian Bond enrolled at Atlanta's  
11 Morehouse College, where he helped found The Pegasus, a  
12 literary magazine, and interned at Time magazine; while still a  
13 student, he became a founding member of the Committee on Appeal  
14 for Human Rights; and

15           WHEREAS, Julian Bond led nonviolent student protests  
16 against segregation in Atlanta parks, restaurants, and movie  
17 theaters; in 1960, he helped form the Student Nonviolent  
18 Coordinating Committee in Raleigh, North Carolina; the  
19 following year, he left Morehouse to serve as the SNCC's  
20 communications director, a position he held for 5 years; he  
21 returned to Morehouse a decade later and received a degree in  
22 English; and

1           WHEREAS, In 1965, Julian Bond was voted into the Georgia  
2 House of Representatives; however, the Georgia House refused to  
3 swear him into his seat because he had endorsed a SNCC  
4 statement that decried the war in Vietnam; Martin Luther King,  
5 Jr. subsequently organized a protest rally on Bond's behalf; in  
6 1966, the case went to the United States Supreme Court, which  
7 unanimously ruled in Bond's favor on the basis of freedom of  
8 speech; and

9           WHEREAS, Julian Bond was finally able to take his seat in  
10 the Georgia House of Representatives in 1967; he served in the  
11 Georgia House until 1975 and went on to serve in the Georgia  
12 Senate from 1975 to 1986; during his tenure in the state  
13 legislature, he wrote over 60 bills that were ratified as law;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, Julian Bond attended the 1968 Democratic National  
16 Convention in Chicago, where he was nominated as a  
17 vice-presidential candidate; he was the first African American  
18 to receive the honor, but withdrew his name because he was not  
19 old enough to hold the office according to constitutional  
20 guidelines; and

21           WHEREAS, From 1971 to 1979, Julian Bond served as president  
22 of the Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization he also

1 co-founded; he was president of Atlanta's chapter of the  
2 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People  
3 before becoming the chairman of the national NAACP, a position  
4 he held from 1998 until 2010; and

5 WHEREAS, Julian Bond was a prominent voice in the media; he  
6 was a commentator for NBC's Today show, wrote a national  
7 newspaper column, and produced poems that have appeared in  
8 publications such as The Nation and the New York Times; he was  
9 also a professor of history at the University of Virginia and  
10 an adjunct professor at American University; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
13 mourn the death of Julian Bond and recognize his life,  
14 commitments, and achievements; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 presented to the family of Julian Bond as an expression of our  
17 sympathy.