



HR1358

LRB099 22407 GRL 49826 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to honor the Summit Community Task Force Inc. for its work in the Summit community; and

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WHEREAS, The Summit Community Task Force was organized in 1992 by Wheeler and Marvel Parker along with a group of concerned citizens in the Village of Summit to address a number of critical issues, chiefly illegal drug and gang activity affecting children and families in their largely African-American neighborhood and to take ownership of their neighborhood; and

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WHEREAS, The Summit Community Task Force seeks to build a better community, create a sense of community for Summit residents and a safe and healthy environment for living and learning, and to improve quality of life by providing lifelong learning opportunities in health, culture, recreation, and education; and

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WHEREAS, In 1997, the Summit Community Task Force purchased a dilapidated building on 64th Street; in an effort to assist in acquiring a headquarters for the Task Force, the Summit Village administration transferred ownership of three vacant lots on 76th Avenue for \$10; in 1998, the organization applied

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1 for and received a HUD-CDBG construction grant for \$227,000; a
2 grant from the Community Memorial Foundation was received to
3 hire an architect and Novotny Engineers provided their services
4 pro bono; in November of 2001, construction was completed on a
5 \$372,000 facility known as the Summit Community Task Force
6 Community Service Center, which was later renamed the Emmitt
7 Till Center; the center allows the organization to consolidate
8 its various training programs; and

9 WHEREAS, The Summit Community Task Force offers numerous
10 activities that target youth, such as Boy Scout and Cub Scout
11 troops, as well as programs focused on strengthening the
12 family, drug and alcohol prevention, life skills training, and
13 parenting; there are also programs for seniors, including the
14 Seniors On The Move group; and

15 WHEREAS, The Summit Community Task Force has helped to
16 empower many individuals in Summit to meet the challenges of
17 life events and transitions by creating and reinforcing
18 practices that promote healthy behavior and lifestyles; the
19 organization has also generated funds and created new
20 opportunities for individuals and families to make
21 constructive changes and has provided opportunities to define
22 problems, implement changes, and protect solutions; and

23 WHEREAS, The Summit Community Task Force is committed to

1 excellence, with a clear vision and passion for delivering
2 outstanding results; the Task Force has proven the great
3 effectiveness of youth-focused, community-based programs and
4 has demonstrated that community outreach programs that are
5 developed and managed by a community, for a community, make a
6 striking impact; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 honor the Summit Community Task Force Inc. for its work in the
10 Summit community and wish for continued success in the future;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the Summit Community Task Force Inc. as a symbol
14 of our esteem and respect.