



HR0578

LRB101 14941 MST 63948 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of U.S.  
4 Congressman Elijah Eugene Cummings, who passed away on October  
5 17, 2019; and

6           WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings was born in Baltimore to Robert and  
7 Ruth Cummings on January 18, 1951; he graduated from Howard  
8 University in Washington and received his law degree from the  
9 University of Maryland; and

10           WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings served in the Maryland House of  
11 Delegates from 1983 to 1996; he was elected to the U.S. House  
12 of Representatives for Maryland's 7th Congressional District  
13 in 1996; and

14           WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings was chairman of the House Oversight  
15 and Reform Committee; from that platform, he sought the truth  
16 and upheld the Constitution; he was a powerful orator and even  
17 when criticizing others maintained a dignified respect for the  
18 institution and the people he served; he was slow to talk about  
19 his achievements and quick to offer counsel and support to  
20 constituents and colleagues of every political persuasion; and

21           WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings was chair of the Black Congressional

1 Caucus from 2003 to 2004; he was an early backer of Barack  
2 Obama for president in 2008 and was the Maryland chair of the  
3 campaign; and

4 WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings's background explains his  
5 effectiveness as a leader; he was a child of sharecroppers,  
6 student government president at Howard University, Phi Beta  
7 Kappa, and the first Black speaker pro tem of the Maryland  
8 House of Representatives; his life stands as an example of  
9 public service at its finest; and

10 WHEREAS, Rep. Cummings is survived by his wife, Maya  
11 Rockeymoore, and his three children; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
13 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
14 we mourn the passing of U.S. Congressman Elijah Cummings and  
15 extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all  
16 who knew and loved him; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of Rep. Cummings as an expression of  
19 our deepest sympathy.