



HR0733

LRB100 16565 MST 31697 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 Claudell
4 Ervin, who passed away on December 19, 2017; and

5 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin was born in Jackson, Mississippi to
6 Claude and Geneva Ervin on August 8, 1943; he was baptized at
7 an early age and attended Mandell United Methodist Church; he
8 attended Roswell B. Mason Elementary School and David G.
9 Farragut High School, where he excelled as a running back on
10 the football team; he received a football scholarship to
11 Central College in Pella, Iowa and earned a bachelor's degree
12 in criminal justice from Chicago State University; in November
13 of 1970, he married the love of his life, Thelma Johnson; and

14 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin began his career with the Chicago
15 Police Department in 1968; he served 13 years as a patrolman
16 which included the 15th, 21st, and 22nd Districts; in April
17 1981, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and was assigned
18 to the 15th District, and later, to the 11th District, where he
19 was Neighborhood Relations Sergeant; he attended the
20 Northwestern University Center for Public Safety Police
21 Management Training Program and was assigned to the Commander's
22 Office of the Police Training Division; in 1991, he was
23 promoted to the rank of lieutenant and assigned as the

1 Commanding Officer of the Police Training Academy's Operations
2 Section; in May of 1996, he was promoted to commander of the
3 Area 1 Detective Division; later that year he returned to his
4 roots as commander of the 11th District; he retired in 2000
5 after 32 years of service; in 2008, he returned to law
6 enforcement as chief of police for the Village of Hazel Crest;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin mentored young men from the
9 Westside of Chicago through his support of various athletic
10 programs that produced talents such as Isiah Thomas, Glen "Doc"
11 Rivers, and Mark Aguirre; through his leadership, various youth
12 entered into the field of law enforcement and had successful
13 careers; he was responsible for the success of such programs as
14 the 11th District Prayer Vigil, Mayor Daley's Super Block, the
15 Ministers Alliance, the Men's Club, youth athletic programs,
16 the Explorer Scouts Program, the Explorer Gospel Fest, the
17 Junior Police, Toys-for-Tots, and his personal favorite, the
18 box car derby; and

19 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin served as head of security for the
20 1988 NBA All-Star Weekend, held for the first time in Chicago;
21 he then became NBA Security Director for the Chicago Bulls,
22 where he served through 2004; and

23 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin was licensed to preach and attended

1 the Northern Baptist Seminary; he served as a chaplain at
2 Advocate Bethany Hospital; and

3 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin was a member of the National
4 Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and
5 served as chairman of the board for the Bobby E. Wright
6 Community Mental Health Center; and

7 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin was a member of New Morning Star
8 M.B. Church, where he was actively involved in Christian
9 education and served as chairman of the board of deacons; in
10 2003, he joined the Third Baptist Church in Chicago; and

11 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin was preceded in death by his
12 parents and his brother, Ronald Ervin; and

13 WHEREAS, Claudell Ervin is survived by his wife of 47
14 years, Thelma; his children, Michele (Lee) Bussie and Jason
15 (State Rep. Melissa Conyears-Ervin) Ervin; his brothers, Jerry
16 (Flora) Ervin and Michael (Sheila) Ervin; his sisters-in-law,
17 Evelyn Brady, Ruthie (Charles) Johnson, and Katherine
18 (Michael) Smith; his brothers-in-law, Roger (Dorothy) Johnson,
19 Robert Johnson, and Reginald (Sharon) Johnson; his
20 grandchildren, Lee Hollis Bussie, Blake Douglas Bussie, and Pa
21 Pa's "sweet little angel", Jeneva Claudette Ervin; numerous
22 nieces, nephews, and friends; a very special brother-in-law,

1 Charles Johnson; and a devoted care giver, Ronald Neely;
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
5 mourn the passing of Claudell Ervin, and extend our sincere
6 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
7 him; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Claudell Ervin as an expression of
10 our deepest sympathy.