



HR0261

LRB102 18301 MST 26029 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 longtime  
4 Peoria resident Cleveland "Sonny" Gordon Sr., who passed away  
5 on April 21, 2021; and

6           WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. was born in Money,  
7 Mississippi to Pleasant Gordon Sr. and Mable Banks Gordon;  
8 early in his life, he moved to Peoria, where he was raised with  
9 four siblings; and

10           WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. married Annie Jo Hunter  
11 Gordon in 1969 and remained married to her until her passing in  
12 2009; and

13           WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. married Presiding Elder  
14 Elaine P. Gordon in 2014 and remained married to her until his  
15 passing; and

16           WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. was educated in the Peoria  
17 public school system and attended Illinois Community College,  
18 taking courses in environmental science; and

19           WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. worked at Pabst Brewery for  
20 13 years until the brewery closed in 1981; after 20 years at

1 the Peoria Disposal Company, he retired as an environmental  
2 officer; and

3 WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. was baptized in the creek at  
4 age nine, was a 60-year member of New Morning Star Missionary  
5 Baptist Church, and joined Ward Chapel African Methodist  
6 Episcopal Church in 2014 to serve with his wife; and

7 WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. served as a faithful trustee  
8 of Ward Chapel, an active member of the Ministers, Spouses,  
9 Widow, and Widowers Organization, the Lay Organization, and  
10 the Sons of Allen; and

11 WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. was preceded in death by his  
12 parents, Mabel Banks Gordon and Pleasant Gordon Sr.; his  
13 siblings, Willie L. Gordon and Pleasant Gordon Jr.; and a son,  
14 Joel Johnson; and

15 WHEREAS, Cleveland Gordon Sr. is survived by his wife,  
16 Presiding Elder Elaine P. Gordon; his siblings, Georgia Mae  
17 Little and Sylvester (Roberta) Gordon; his children, Jonathon  
18 Johnson, Cleveland L. (Jamie) Gordon, Jamal Gordon, Joseph  
19 Murphy, Howard (Aisha) Walters, Shando Faulkner (Don) Harris,  
20 Chantay (Corey) Gray, Antoinette (Cornelius) Donald, Shelleye  
21 Murphy, and Jehan (Derrick) Booth; 17 grandchildren; 11  
22 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
3 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we mourn the passing of Cleveland "Sonny" Gordon Sr., remember  
5 his faith, commend his service to his community, and extend  
6 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who  
7 knew and loved him; and be it further

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