



HR0569

LRB102 22120 LAW 31249 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Virgil Abloh of Chicago, who passed away on November 28, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh was born to Nee and Eunice Abloh in Rockford on September 30, 1980; he was raised in Rockford and graduated from Boylan Catholic High School in 1998; he completed his undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002; he earned his Master of Architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 2006; he interned at Fendi in Rome in 2009; he married Shannon Sundberg in 2009; and

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WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh officially assumed the role of creative director at Donda, Kanye West's creative agency, in 2010; he served as artistic director of the album Watch the Throne by Jay-Z and West in 2011, which led to his nomination for the Grammy Award for Best Recording Package; he launched his first brand, Pyrex Vision, in New York in 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh founded Off-White, a multi-platform creative endeavor based in Milan, in 2013; through Off-White, he combined ideas of streetwear, luxury, art, music, and travel; he launched womenswear for Off-White in 2014, and he

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1 began showing his men's and women's collections during Paris  
2 Fashion Week; he opened his first concept store in the Aoyama  
3 area of Tokyo, Japan in 2016; he also debuted his Grey Area  
4 furniture collection in Milan, his first furniture venture  
5 under the Off-White brand; and

6 WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh was named the artistic director of  
7 Louis Vuitton's menswear collections in 2018, making history  
8 as Louis Vuitton's first Black artistic director; and

9 WHEREAS, During his multifaceted career, Virgil Abloh  
10 collaborated with a multitude of other artists and companies,  
11 including Takashi Murakami, Warby Parky, Jacob the Jeweler,  
12 Jimmy Choo, IKEA, and Nike; and

13 WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh received a number of accolades for  
14 his work; his company Off-White was named a finalist for the  
15 LVMH Prize, an industry award, in 2015; he was named among Time  
16 Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in 2018; his artwork  
17 was the subject of an exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary  
18 Art in Chicago in 2019; and

19 WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh established the Virgil Abloh  
20 "Post-Modern" Scholarship Fund in 2020 to foster equity and  
21 inclusion within the fashion industry by providing  
22 scholarships to students of academic promise of Black,

1 African-American, or African descent; to date, his fund has  
2 assisted 20 scholars with \$7,500 scholarships; and

3 WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh was a fiercely devoted father,  
4 husband, son, brother, and friend; he was known for his work  
5 ethic, infinite curiosity, and unwavering optimism; he was  
6 driven by his dedication to his craft and to his mission to  
7 open doors for others and create pathways for greater equality  
8 in art and design; he will be dearly missed; and

9 WHEREAS, Virgil Abloh is survived by his wife, Shannon  
10 Abloh; his children, Lowe and Grey; his sister, Edwina Abloh;  
11 and his parents, Nee and Eunice Abloh; therefore, be it

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

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