



HR0658

LRB102 26209 ECR 36003 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Laquan McDonald was a 17-year-old Chicago
3 teenager and Illinois resident who was shot 16 times by then
4 officer Jason Van Dyke on October 20, 2014 and died as a result
5 of his injuries; and

6 WHEREAS, Jason Van Dyke was charged with one count of
7 second degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery and
8 found guilty by a jury of his peers in the atrocious murder of
9 teenager Laquan McDonald; and

10 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of this tragedy, on December 7,
11 2015, former United States Attorney General Loretta Lynch
12 announced that the United States Department of Justice Civil
13 Rights Division launched an investigation into the practices
14 and conduct that resulted in the death of Laquan McDonald; and

15 WHEREAS, On January 13, 2017, the United States Department
16 of Justice Civil Rights Division and the United States
17 Attorney's Office Northern District of Illinois released a
18 joint report that disclosed incidents, patterns, and practices
19 deemed to be in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United
20 States Constitution; and

21 WHEREAS, There has been a longstanding cyclical, painful,

1 and robustly uncomfortable history of trauma and broken trust
2 between our communities and law enforcement; and

3 WHEREAS, Laquan McDonald's inalienable right to exist was
4 prematurely snatched from him before he could truly live in
5 its potential; protecting that right is of paramount
6 importance for every child in our state; and

7 WHEREAS, Laquan McDonald's civil rights were blatantly and
8 inexplicably violated 16 times by Jason Van Dyke on October
9 20, 2014; and

10 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has a vested interest in
11 promoting and supporting mechanisms towards healing the wounds
12 of this inhumane tragedy; and

13 WHEREAS, United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland
14 and the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights
15 Division consider and are committed to fostering bonds and
16 creating safer and fairer communities, demonstrating
17 dedication to equity in our federal judicial system, and
18 challenging the constructs that allow for systemic violations
19 of our civil and human rights; and

20 WHEREAS, No statute of limitations exist for federal
21 offenses of civil rights violations that result in death;

1 therefore, 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 urge the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights
5 Division to investigate and charge Jason Van Dyke for his
6 multiple violations of the civil rights of Laquan McDonald.