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LRB102 17636 LAW 23412 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Thomas Lindsey "TJ" Sewell V, who passed away on February 26, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to Thomas Lindsey Sewell IV and Ronita Tubbs-Moore on December 4, 1990; he attended Cincinnati Public Schools, where he earned numerous academic achievements; he graduated from South Cobb High School in Austell, Georgia in 2009; he continued his education at Kennesaw State University in Georgia and the University of Cincinnati, where he studied business; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V was recognized for his gift of gab and his diligence by Melissa Boston at the TD Jakes Convention in 2005, where he was a personal assistant; over the next 15 years, he received business mentoring from her, which led him to becoming the senior vice president of the minority-owned, cannabis/CBD oil company WaKanna for Life; and

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WHEREAS, Due to his extreme work ethic over the years, Thomas Sewell V found additional employment opportunities that varied from restaurant serving to working at Luxottica Retail's North America headquarters; and

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1 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V was committed to mentoring others
2 and giving back to his community; he served as a board member
3 for Cincinnati For Youth Ministries; he played an integral
4 part in the success of the Light Up the Night charity fashion
5 show in 2014; he founded the 501(C) foundation Black Men Vote
6 in 2020; and

7 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V committed to his faith at an
8 early age at the P.A.W. Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio in
9 2000; as a child, he joined and attended the Greater Emmanuel
10 Apostolic Church in Cincinnati, the Abundant Life Apostolic
11 Church in Cincinnati, and the High Point Christian Tabernacle
12 in Smyrna, Georgia; as an adult, he attended Overflow
13 Ministries before leaving Ohio; he often returned to
14 Cincinnati to visit his church family; and

15 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V served his family with his
16 constant presence and his love; he celebrated everyone's big
17 moments and never missed attending a family gathering,
18 reunion, or event where he was able to spend quality time with
19 his family and friends; he attended to the needs of his
20 grandmother and great-grandmother while they were ill and
21 recovering from surgery; he was committed to supporting his
22 nieces and nephews; and

23 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V was known for his laugh, his

1 strong embrace, his faithfulness, and his selflessness; he
2 loved traveling and having fun with his friends; he will be
3 remembered as the sunshine that lightened any dark days that
4 his family and friends may have encountered; he will be missed
5 by many; and

6 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V was preceded in death by his
7 maternal great-grandfather, Timothy Tubbs; his grandfather,
8 Ronald Tubbs (Lynn Johnson, living); his great-grandfather,
9 James D. Ficklin Sr.; his great-grandmother, Sarah Frances
10 Ficklin; and his paternal grandfather, Thomas Lindsey Sewell
11 III; and

12 WHEREAS, Thomas Sewell V is survived by his parents,
13 Thomas L. Sewell IV (Janae) and Ronita Tubbs-Moore (Robert);
14 his maternal grandmother, Yvonne "Elove" Tubbs (Earl); his
15 paternal grandmother, Linda Bea; his maternal
16 great-grandmother, Jimmie Dabbs; his brothers, Dominick Tubbs,
17 Timothy Tubbs, Brandon Sewell, and Hunter Sewell; his sisters,
18 Brittany Tubbs, Nadiya Sewell, and Virginia Mundy; his
19 nephews, Brayden Tubbs, Dominick Tubbs Jr., and Bryce Bates;
20 his nieces, Leah Sewell, Lauryn Sewell, and Ja'Nyla Watkins;
21 his uncles, Ronald Tubbs Jr., Ronnell Beech, Christopher
22 Sewell (Tiffany), Stephen L. Sewell, and Keith Moore; his
23 aunts, Keisha Tubbs, Dominique Allen (Antwan), Lynnique Tubbs,
24 Anise Sewell, Danielle Sewell, Dorthea Moore, and Theresa

1 Moore; his special godmothers, Kara Graves and Christine
2 Moore; his best friend, Dalan Carter; the love of his life,
3 Kevorey Hartwell; his extended mother, Melissa Boston (Emil);
4 his extended brother, Tarique Rodgers; and a host of other
5 aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
8 Thomas Lindsey "TJ" Sewell V and extend our sincere
9 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
10 him; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Thomas Sewell V as an expression of
13 our deepest sympathy.