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LRB102 26241 LAW 36095 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 Clarence Shelley of Champaign, who passed away on January 17, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley was born to Grady Shelley and Alma (Jones) Shelley in Detroit, Michigan on August 16, 1931; he graduated from Miller High School; he worked as a dock worker with the Merchant Marines and on cruise ships on the Great Lakes; he majored in Journalism at Wayne State University before deciding to become a high school English teacher; he was initiated into the Alpha Beta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. in 1951; he served in the U.S. Army from 1952 until he was honorably discharged in 1954; he returned to Wayne State, where he played football and earned his bachelor's degree in English in 1957; he earned his master's degree in Education in 1965; and

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WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley worked as an English teacher at Northeastern High School in Detroit for 10 years; through teaching, he counseled and mentored students and advised administrators at the Detroit Board of Education, the Cranbrook School in Michigan, Wayne State University, and Dartmouth College in New Hampshire; and

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1 WHEREAS, After Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated
2 in 1968, Clarence Shelley was invited by Chancellor Jack
3 Peltason of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to
4 run a new program to support Black students; he became the
5 first director of the new Special Education Opportunities
6 Program and was charged with organizing one of the nation's
7 earliest and largest recruitment efforts of Black students and
8 students of color; he was named dean of students in 1974,
9 assistant vice chancellor in 1984, and associate vice
10 chancellor for Student Affairs before his first retirement in
11 2001; he also served as special assistant to the chancellor
12 and continued to develop cultural programming while acting as
13 an ambassador to Black alumni and alumni of color until 2016;
14 he also contributed to academic research, professional
15 training materials, and other publications; and

16 WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley served as an adviser to African
17 American Young Men Moving; he also served as a chapter adviser
18 to the Beta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. for 25
19 years; and

20 WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley was awarded the UI Chancellor's
21 Medallion for Service to the Campus and was one of 18
22 remarkable individuals featured in the university's 150th
23 anniversary publication for triggering innovation at the
24 University of Illinois and beyond; he was recognized for his

1 leadership and contributions by the Black Greek Council, the
2 Interfraternity Council, La Casa Cultural Latina, the Asian
3 Pacific American Student Coalition, the American Civil
4 Liberties Union, and the UI Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
5 and Transgender Concerns; and

6 WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley enjoyed film, football, train
7 travel, and theater, including the Krannert Center and the
8 Shakespeare Theater Festival; he also enjoyed entertaining his
9 family and friends in his home and visiting his favorite
10 spots, including Esquire Grill, Baxter's, Sun Singer, and
11 occasionally Culver's; and

12 WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley was preceded in death by his
13 parents and his siblings, Grady Shellie, William Shelley,
14 Clara Butler, Susie Spivey, Helen Perkins, Constance Turner,
15 and Barbara Myles; and

16 WHEREAS, Clarence Shelley is survived by his wife of 23
17 years, Sharon Ormsby-Shelley; his daughters, Dana (Robert A.
18 Glasner) Vickers Shelley, Pamela-Alyse Shelley, and Courtney
19 Walker; his son, Craig Walker; his sister, Carlotta Shelley;
20 his brothers-in-law, Ronald G. (Reneé) Vickers and Matthew
21 Tuite; his sister-in-law, Marveen Tuite; his grandchildren,
22 Craig J. (Kasey) Walker Jr., Cory Sutton, Jordan (Megan)
23 Walker, Danielle B. (Edwin) McGhee, Chase Walker, and David

1 McKenzie; his nine great-grandchildren; his nieces and
2 nephews; his Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers; his friends;
3 and his former students, mentees, and colleagues; therefore,
4 be it

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

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Clarence Shelley as an expression
12 of our deepest sympathy.