



SR0371

LRB103 32798 LAW 62602 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 Lawrence Clifford "LC" Owens of Urbana, who passed away on May 28, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, LC Owens was born to Curnetus Owens and Audra McLaurin in McGee, Mississippi on October 26, 1947; he attended Urbana High School, where he played football and was a part of the team that won the 1964 Big 12 Championship; he married Del Elaine in June 1992; and

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WHEREAS, Beginning in 1970, LC Owens worked for the University of Illinois, serving as a storekeeper before being promoted to locksmith; he received one of the university's most prestigious honors, the Chancellor's Distinguished Staff Award, in 1999; after 32 and a half years of dedicated service, he retired in 2002; that same year, he began his career at Owens Family Day Care Connections, volunteering the first 16 years as executive chief, transportation, and lead positive behavior reinforcement specialist; and

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WHEREAS, LC Owens was deeply involved in his community; he served as a boys' basketball coach in Urbana and was a youth football coach for over 20 years; he was a member of the Hall of Fame Committee for Urbana High School; he was the first to

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1 volunteer to cook for family gatherings, special programs, and
2 meetings at Salem, and he previously worked with both Carle
3 and Provena hospitals to prepare meals; he and his wife were
4 named "honorary chefs" by the PTA of King Elementary School;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, LC Owens was baptized and committed to his faith
7 at an early age; he attended Salem Baptist Church, where he
8 served in a plethora of church ministries, including being
9 past president of the Usher Board and president of Laymen
10 Ministries, assisting with the Grandma Soup Kitchen, and being
11 a member of the Culinary Committee and the Men's Choir; he also
12 delivered bread weekly to various community members and
13 nonprofit organizations for over 25 years; and

14 WHEREAS, LC Owens was honored by the National Council of
15 African American Men (NCAAM) when he received its Community
16 Service Humanitarian Award in 1998; he and his wife were
17 honored as Foster Parents of the Year in 2000; and

18 WHEREAS, LC Owens was known for his affable, humorous,
19 humble, patient, and wise personality; he found passion in
20 cooking, duty, and service; he encouraged others, especially
21 young, Black boys, to always strive toward obtaining more
22 knowledge; he will be remembered as a devoted husband, father,
23 brother, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, godfather, and

1 mentor; and

2 WHEREAS, LC Owens is survived by his wife, Del Elaine
3 Wilson-Owens; his daughters, Myles (Alexander) Owens, Lucinda
4 (Glenn Sr.) Smith, and Yolanda Wilson; his son, Steven
5 Thompson; his sisters, Martha Owens, Mary Huff, Mamie
6 (William) Kindle, the Rev. Linda Diane Owens, and Molly Sue
7 Davis; eight godchildren; 18 grandchildren; 16
8 great-grandchildren; and his friends, Bob Ward, Evelyn
9 Hickman, Arthalia Rogers, Dorothy Carter, and Benita
10 Rollins-Gay; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 Lawrence Clifford "LC" Owens and extend our sincere
14 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
15 him; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of LC Owens as an expression of our
18 deepest sympathy.