



SR0327

LRB095 12959 GRL 38572 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Ellis E. Reid III of Chicago, who passed away on August 7, 2007; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III was born in Bronzeville and grew up in Woodlawn and Park Manor; he graduated from Englewood High School, then attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1956; he received his law degree from the University of Chicago Law School in 1959; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III was a well-known and respected attorney and judge throughout the Chicago area; he was a prosecutor in the case against former State's Attorney Edward Hanrahan and police officers accused of wrongdoing in a raid that left two Black Panthers dead; he successfully argued in federal court to overturn a Chicago ordinance in 1970, which prevented women from making drinks unless they had a liquor license or were related to someone who did; he served for many years as a judge in the Cook County Circuit Court's 1st Municipal District in Chicago and he was the first black judge to head that district; he also served as a Justice in the Illinois Appellate Court, 1st District, 5th Division from 2000 to 2004; he became the court's presiding justice in 2004; and

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1 WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III also represented various
2 organizations; among them, he served as General Counsel to
3 Local 453 of the United Auto Workers, AFL-CIO from 1960 to
4 1972; he served as General Counsel to Local 1006 of the
5 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees,
6 AFL-CIO from 1976 to 1983; and he was a proud, dedicated member
7 of and long-time General Counsel to the Kappa Alpha Psi
8 Fraternity, Inc.; and

9 WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III was a former President of the
10 Illinois Judicial Council; and he was a former President of the
11 Cook County Bar Association, the first African-American bar
12 association in the country; and

13 WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III had an intense love of the law
14 and had an interest in mentoring young law students; and

15 WHEREAS, Ellis E. Reid III is by survived his wife, Sheila;
16 his sons, Ellis E. Reid IV and David Reid; his daughter,
17 Noelle; his siblings, Betty Baugh, Virginia Nichols, and Harry
18 Reid; and his four grandchildren; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
21 his family and friends, the passing of Ellis E. Reid III; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the family of Ellis E. Reid III as an expression
4 of our sympathy.