



HR0830

LRB098 20099 MST 55365 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During Black History Month it is important to
3 recognize those within the African American community who
4 contributed to the betterment of the State; and

5 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge (August 23, 1930 - December 26,
6 2008) was a Democratic member of the Illinois House of
7 Representatives, representing the 114th District from 1975
8 until 2008; she served as the Assistant Majority Leader and was
9 a member of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus; and

10 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge earned her Bachelor of Science
11 from the Hampton Institute, her Juris Doctor from the Saint
12 Louis University School of Law, and her Master of Law from the
13 Washington University School of Law; she was a former Assistant
14 Circuit Attorney for the City of St. Louis; and

15 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge was married to Richard G.
16 Younge, also an attorney, and they had 3 children, Ruth
17 (deceased), Torque, and Margaret, and 2 step-sons, Richard
18 Younge, Jr. and Roland Younge; her daughter, Margaret, said
19 that her mother drove 90 minutes each way to Springfield every
20 day so she could see her children in the mornings and evenings;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge was one of the longest-serving
2 members of the Illinois House; her legislative priorities
3 included urban renewal, substance abuse treatment, services
4 for the homeless, and economic development; she was a public
5 servant dedicated to equality and community progress; she
6 received the "Best Legislator" award from the United Auto
7 Workers in 1993; and

8 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge was a loyal believer in
9 education and economic development, fighting hard to keep the
10 community college in East St. Louis and to bring the Casino
11 Queen there, and for any cause that would help her district;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge set the framework for
14 Illinois's Homeless Bill of Rights; she sponsored House Bill
15 4116 in 2004, which passed the House of Representatives but did
16 not receive a vote in the Senate; it contained several
17 provisions that are now law, including the right for homeless
18 people to access emergency medical care, the right to vote, and
19 the privacy of personal records; and

20 WHEREAS, Wyvetter H. Younge's dedication and hard work for
21 the people of her district, and on a larger scale - the
22 contributions she has made for the advancement of African
23 Americans in government, deserves to be remembered; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 during Black History Month, we recognize the late State
5 Representative Wyvetter H. Younge for the all she has done; and
6 be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Wyvetter H. Younge as an expression
9 of our esteem and respect.