



HR1397

LRB098 23381 MST 62515 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor our former colleague, State Representative Charles "Chuck" Jefferson, on his service of more than 13 years in the Illinois House of Representatives and thank him for his dedication to the State and the Rockford community; and

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WHEREAS, Rep. Jefferson was born in 1945 in Waco, Texas and served honorably in the United States Army from 1965 to 1971; and

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WHEREAS, In 1967, Rep. Jefferson married his late wife, Genell, and they raised 3 sons, Carl Edward, Curtis Lamar, and Charles, Jr., in Rockford; and

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WHEREAS, Prior to becoming a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, Rep. Jefferson served as a member of the Winnebago County Board, sitting on the Economic Development, Zoning, Forest Preserve, and Legislative committees and chairing the Public Works Committee; and

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WHEREAS, Rep. Jefferson began his service in the General Assembly with his appointment to the Illinois House of Representatives in April of 2001 following the retirement of

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1 former State Rep. Doug Scott; Rep. Jefferson retired as an
2 Assistant House Majority Leader; and

3 WHEREAS, Rep. Jefferson was a strong advocate for his
4 community; he worked to ensure that a new judicial circuit was
5 created to increase minority representation on the bench; he
6 brought capital construction projects to his district to create
7 local jobs and repair Rockford's infrastructure and roadways,
8 and he spearheaded a funding project to provide passenger rail
9 service between Rockford and Chicago; he tirelessly advocated
10 for the rights of veterans and seniors, and he was always
11 fighting to ensure that Rockford schools and seniors received
12 their fair share; and

13 WHEREAS, Rep. Jefferson was an unrelenting activist for the
14 public safety of Rockford, supporting several initiatives to
15 crack down on gang violence and fighting to protect Rockford's
16 CeaseFire program and the Booker Washington Center; and

17 WHEREAS, Maintaining a close relationship with the
18 community was always Rep. Jefferson's first priority; he
19 provided a professional and responsive constituent service
20 office to help residents navigate through government programs;
21 he hosted his annual Mother's Day Luncheon as a tribute to
22 local mothers, and he raised money for local food pantries; and

1 WHEREAS, Rep. Jefferson was known throughout the Rockford
2 area and the Illinois House of Representatives for his warm and
3 approachable nature, his wisdom and genuine understanding, and
4 his care for the concerns of Illinois and his community; and

5 WHEREAS, Those who served with Rep. Jefferson will dearly
6 miss his kind and unwavering friendship, his guidance, and his
7 dedicated and sincere spirit for public service that he brought
8 to the chamber; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we honor and thank State Representative Charles "Chuck"
12 Jefferson for his years of dedicated service; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Rep. Jefferson as an expression of our respect and
15 esteem with our best wishes for his future success.