



SR0262

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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 Jacoby Dickens of Fisher Island, Florida, formerly of Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, After moving to Chicago in 1946, Jacoby Dickens attended Wendell Phillips High School on the South Side; and

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WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens was a longtime resident of Chicago; he began his career at the Chicago Board of Education and demonstrated an entrepreneurial flair that earned him the distinction as one of the nation's most admired business leaders; and

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WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens was elected to the Board of the Seaway Bank and Trust Company in 1979; he served as Vice Chairman of the board before becoming Chairman in 1983; and

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WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens was well known as a champion for the African-American and civic communities; his deep involvement with the community shaped his work at Seaway, where he helped implement the opening of bank branches in otherwise underserved areas of the city, including his own South Side of Chicago; he focused on growing new businesses through loans, outreach, and community development programs; he also

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1 supported local churches and mentoring programs, sponsoring  
2 African-American teenagers through high school and college;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens served as chairman of the Committee  
5 to Elect Harold Washington and as a Commissioner of Economic  
6 Development for the City of Chicago; he was a member of the  
7 boards of the Chicago Urban League, Chicago State University  
8 Foundation, and the School of Business at Florida A & M  
9 University; he also served as a trustee at the Museum of  
10 Science and Industry at DePaul University, where a  
11 scholarship-and-loan program was named in his honor, and at  
12 Chicago State University, to which he donated more than \$1  
13 million; in 1995, the Physical Education and Athletics Building  
14 at CSU was named for him; and

15 WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens was listed among Chicago  
16 Magazine's "20 Most Influential People in Chicago" and had been  
17 inducted into the Chicago Business Hall of Fame; and

18 WHEREAS, Jacoby Dickens is survived by his loving wife of  
19 15 years, Veranda Dickens; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
22 his family and friends, the passing of Jacoby Dickens; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
3 presented to the family of Jacoby Dickens as an expression of  
4 our sympathy.