



HR0726

LRB099 13954 MST 37957 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Anthony
4 Yaw Sarfo Kwateng of Munster, Indiana, who passed away on July
5 1, 2015; and

6 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng was born in Atimatin, Maase, Ghana
7 on September 27, 1948 to Nana Akwasi Kyere Kwateng, Boagyaa
8 Yokohene, and Obaa Panin Akosua Obour Serwaa; he began his
9 early education at Kwabere, Maase and later transferred to St.
10 Joseph Catholic School in Kumasi, Ghana; he was class captain
11 and a leader in the Baiden Powell Boys Scout Group at St.
12 Joseph's School; he played soccer, establishing himself as a
13 brilliant goalkeeper; after graduating from St. Joseph's, he
14 continued his education at the Tamale Government Technical
15 School in the northern part of Ghana; he completed his
16 technical school education at Takoradi Polytechnic in the
17 Western Region of Ghana in 1963, with a diploma in building
18 technology; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1964, Anthony Kwateng began working in Accra,
20 Ghana with the Ghana Water and Sewerage Corporation as an
21 Assistant Quantity Surveyor; he married Mary Winifred Nyam in
22 Agona Asafo, Ghana in 1971, and, in 1972, immigrated to the
23 United States in search of better opportunities; and

1 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng's wife joined him in the U.S. in
2 1973 and they settled in Maywood; he studied at Triton College
3 and began working for the Holloway Tiling Company as an
4 estimator and then J. Wright & Sons; he moved his family to
5 Gary, Indiana and began working for Means Developers as a Chief
6 Estimator and Project Manager; on May 23, 1982, he graduated
7 from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in
8 Construction Technology and 2 associates degrees in
9 supervision and architectural technology; and

10 WHEREAS, While continuing his work with Means Developers,
11 Anthony Kwateng began pursuing his own entrepreneurial goals;
12 he invested in a restaurant in Gary, Indiana called Cindy's and
13 opened an office supply store; in 1984, he co-founded Oakley
14 Construction Company, Inc. in Chicago, the first major
15 Ghanaian-African/American construction company with offices in
16 the U.S. and Ghana; he served as Vice-President and Secretary
17 of the company from its founding until his passing; and

18 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng was a founding member of the
19 Asanteman Association of Chicago and the Ghana USA Chamber of
20 Commerce; he was an active member of Black Contractors United
21 and an avid supporter of local chapters of the National Society
22 of Black Engineers; he often did philanthropic work in the 15th
23 Ward/Englewood neighborhood, feeding the homeless, supporting

1 battered women's shelters, and donating to the Chicago Housing
2 Authorities' Children's Christmas programs; and

3 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng volunteered during Black History
4 Month, visiting local Gary schools to educate children on
5 Ghanaian culture and history; during his free time, he could be
6 found blasting Ghanaian music throughout the house, supporting
7 family and friends in the local Ghanaian community at various
8 events, working on his latest business venture, or working out,
9 which for him included a long walk on the treadmill and an even
10 longer stay in the steam room at his local gym; he also enjoyed
11 watching CNN or sports; he served as President of the Parent
12 Teacher's Association at his children's school and was always
13 the loudest spectator at their events; and

14 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng was a greeter at his church St.
15 Thomas Moore in Munster, Indiana until he became a founding
16 patron of the Ghanaian Catholic Community Church of Chicago; he
17 devoted the last several years of his life to the church; he
18 was also a dedicated member of the Catholic Charismatic Prayer
19 Group; as a patron and member of the church choir, he always
20 provided for the needs and welfare of the choir; and

21 WHEREAS, Anthony Kwateng is survived by his wife, Mary; his
22 daughters, Odilia Kwateng, Antoinette Kwateng-Brimah (Ali),
23 and Akua Kwateng-Bonsu (William); his son, Prince Kwaku Afriyie

1 Kwateng (Ashley); his grandchildren, DeAnthoni, Malachi, Myia,
2 McKenzie, and Nathaniel; and a host of nieces, nephews, family,
3 and friends; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 mourn the passing of Anthony Yaw Sarfo Kwateng, and extend our
7 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
8 and loved him; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Anthony Kwateng as an expression of
11 our deepest sympathy.