



SR0576

LRB100 12713 MST 27363 r

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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 William "Bill" James Carothers Sr., who passed away on April 5, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, William Carothers was born in Chicago to Walter and Albenda Carothers on March 29, 1929, the fifth of six children; and

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WHEREAS, William Carothers was educated in the Chicago Public School system; he attended Grant Elementary School, McKinley High School, and Theodore Herzl Junior College (now Malcolm X College); he married Roberta Sims in 1952; and

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WHEREAS, William Carothers was employed by the International Harvester Company, IC Supermarket, and the City of Chicago; he was finally employed by Habilitative Systems, Inc. for over 20 years, where he was the Executive Assistant to the Executive Director, Donald Dew; he also worked for Executive Director Larry T. Byrd; and

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WHEREAS, William Carothers was elected ward committeeman and alderman of the 28th Ward; and

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WHEREAS, William Carothers was a member of Original

1 Providence Baptist Church for over 60 years, where he served as
2 a trustee of the church for over 30 years; and

3 WHEREAS, William Carothers was known by several names
4 defined by his work; he gained the title "The Boss" from his
5 political days when he organized field operations for numerous
6 political campaigns; he earned the name "Mr. C" from the many
7 years he worked for Habilitative Systems, Inc.; and

8 WHEREAS, William Carothers is remembered for his love of
9 his family and politics; he taught his sons to be men,
10 instilling his belief with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote:
11 "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in
12 moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at
13 times of challenge and controversy"; and

14 WHEREAS, William Carothers was known for being a sharp
15 dresser and his fine taste in suits, ties, and the pocket
16 square; he loved the icon and creator of funk music, the
17 "Godfather of Soul" James Brown, frequently quoting lyrics in
18 times of challenge from such songs as "Payback" and "You got to
19 deal with it"; and

20 WHEREAS, William Carothers was preceded in death by his
21 parents; all of his siblings; his son, Gregory; and his
22 daughters, Pamela and Colette; and

1 WHEREAS, William Carothers is survived by his wife of 64
2 years, Roberta; his sons, Isaac (Sharron), William Jr., and
3 Anthony (Kathie); three grandsons; five granddaughters;
4 numerous great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and
5 friends; his sisters-in-law, Anita, Cora, and Yvonne; his
6 son-in-law, Louis; and his Original Providence Baptist family;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
10 William "Bill" James Carothers Sr., and extend our sincere
11 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
12 him; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of William Carothers as an expression
15 of our deepest sympathy.