



HR0811

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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 Jacob  
4 Manuel Cooper Sr., who passed away on December 31, 2009; and

5           WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. was born on January 9, 1947, in  
6 Shreveport, Louisiana; his parents were the late Esau Cooper  
7 Sr. and Lillie Hawkins Cooper; he married the love of his life,  
8 Priscilla Elanor Knox, on February 1, 1969, in Baton Rouge,  
9 Louisiana; and

10           WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. accepted Christ at an early age  
11 and united with the Wesley Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal  
12 Church in Princeton, Louisiana; after returning home in July of  
13 2009, he reunited with the Wesley Chapel Church under the  
14 leadership of Reverend Anthony Brim; he had great admiration  
15 for Wesley because of the legacy of his great-grandfather, the  
16 late Reverend John Hawkins, who founded the church in 1873; he  
17 also spent time in fellowship with the Cathedral of Joy in  
18 Flossmoor, where he was an honorary member; and

19           WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. attended Princeton High School in  
20 Princeton, Louisiana, where he graduated in May of 1964; he  
21 received his bachelor's degree in recreation at Southern  
22 University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and later attended Chicago

1 State University to receive his teacher's certificate for  
2 physical education; he also received his master's degree in  
3 cultural studies from Governors State University; and

4 WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. was employed with the Chicago  
5 Board of Education for 35 years until his retirement in 2004;  
6 he was a dedicated physical education teacher at Ryder and  
7 Shoop Elementary Schools; he also worked for the Chicago Park  
8 District as a physical education instructor from 1969 to 1972;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. enjoyed spending time with his  
11 family and tending his garden, where he grew many different  
12 types of vegetables; and

13 WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. was preceded in death by his  
14 parents; his sisters, Jessie, Geraldine, and Dorothy; and his  
15 brother, Howard; and

16 WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. is survived by his loving wife,  
17 Priscilla; his daughters, Tarshwa (Kevin) and Tonya (John); his  
18 son, Jacob Jr.; his grandchildren, Kevin, Kristen, Joshua, and  
19 Jasmine; his sisters, Vernona Barr, Nola Nadine Carter  
20 (Lorenza), Lillie Ingram, and Mary Louise Robinson; his  
21 brothers, Esau Cooper, Jr. (Gracie) and Ricky Cooper (Cindy);  
22 his sister-in-law, Marcella Cooper; and his many nieces,

1 nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends; and

2 WHEREAS, Jacob Cooper Sr. will be remembered by all who  
3 knew and loved him as a devoted husband and father; therefore,  
4 be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
7 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of Jacob  
8 Manuel Cooper Sr.; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
10 presented to the family of Jacob Cooper Sr. as an expression of  
11 our sympathy.