



HR1579

LRB096 24704 KXB 44688 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Homer L. Ward, Sr. of Robbins, who passed away on December 30, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in New Boston, Texas, on June 5, 1919, to Annie McFarland and Bloxie Wade; the family moved north to Evanston when he was only two or three years old; he attended both the Evanston and later the Chicago Public Schools; he met his future wife, Mary Elizabeth Riddick, while attending public school in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, His mother sent him back to Texas to live with her sister, Della, and her family; while there, he developed his lifelong passion for hunting and fishing and a love and appreciation for nature and the environment; he later returned to Chicago and renewed his pursuit of Mary Riddick, as well as working with the Illinois Conservation Corps Camp and the WPA; he and his wife were married in 1940; and

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WHEREAS, He enlisted in the United States Army in 1944; he was chosen for the special pilot training program for "Coloreds" in the Air Corps division in Tuskegee, Alabama; the men in the program became the Tuskegee Airmen; he served in the military until the end of World War II and returned to Chicago;

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1 in 1949, he moved to Robbins; and

2 WHEREAS, He designed, with the help of a few good friends,
3 and built his Robbins home; he became a Master Mason in 1954
4 and is a lifetime member of the Alpha & Omega Lodge #121 Free &
5 Accepted Masons, Prince Hall Affiliation; he was an early
6 member of the Robbins Rod & Gun Club; he was a Hunter Safety
7 Instructor for the Illinois Wildlife Federation, Law
8 Enforcement Division; He was a Range Master and Trainer for,
9 and member of, the Robbins Police Department; he was an elected
10 Commissioner of the Robbins Park District; and for many years
11 he was the maintenance superintendent for the Housing Authority
12 of the County of Cook in Robbins; and

13 WHEREAS, Homer Ward, Sr. is survived by his children, Mary,
14 June, and Homer, Jr.; his grandchildren; his
15 great-grandchildren; and his great-great-grandchildren;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of Homer
20 Ward, Sr.; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Homer Ward, Sr. as a symbol of our

1 sincere sympathy.