



HR0517

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor the life and accomplishments of James M. Bailey; and

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WHEREAS, James Bailey was born on May 5, 1915, in Trenton, Tennessee; he has lived in Alton for over 70 years; he still resides in Alton on Salu Street, in the house he built in 1954; and

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WHEREAS, James Bailey and his wife, Mary Louise (Simmons) Bailey, raised two wonderful sons, Dr. Jimmie M. Bailey and Judge Duane Bailey; and

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WHEREAS, James Bailey earned his bachelor's degree from Lincoln University in Missouri in 1939; while attending Lincoln University, he was the first person to pledge with the Eta Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; he was inducted into the Lincoln University Alumni Hall of Fame on July 21, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, James Bailey earned his master's degree from the University of Illinois in Champaign in 1948; and

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WHEREAS, James Bailey served as an educator with the Alton

1 Community Unit School District for 48 years; during his career,
2 he served as a junior high school teacher and basketball coach,
3 principal of Lovejoy Elementary School and Central High School,
4 and supervising principal of all elementary principals; he also
5 holds the distinction of being the first African-American
6 assistant principal at Alton High School, the first
7 African-American administrative assistant to the
8 superintendent, and the first African-American assistant
9 superintendent of schools; and

10 WHEREAS, James Bailey was a member of the steering
11 committees that founded Lewis and Clark Community College in
12 Godfrey and Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville; he
13 was one of the three founders of the City of Alton's Elijah P.
14 Lovejoy Memorial Scholarship; he was the first
15 African-American to be elected to the Alton City Council, where
16 he served for 10 years; he was the first African-American to be
17 elected to the position of comptroller in Alton; he served as a
18 community volunteer for voter registration efforts in the City
19 of Alton; he is a member of the NAACP; he is also a founding
20 member of the Alton Urban League; and

21 WHEREAS, James Bailey will be honored for his many
22 accomplishments during a ceremony held by the Celebrate An
23 Elder Ministry of the Greater St. James Baptist Church in Alton
24 on September 25, 2011; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we honor the life and accomplishments of James M. Bailey and
4 wish him continued success and happiness in the future; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to James Bailey as a symbol of our esteem and
8 respect.