



HR0657

LRB097 14769 GRL 59794 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to honor Shorty Mills for his many  
4 accomplishments and thank him for his service to his community;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Shorty Mills was born Vincent Mills on February  
7 19, 1943, at the Illinois Research Hospital; his parents are  
8 Ruby and Charles Mills; a fatal accident took the life of  
9 Shorty's father when he was 3 years old; his mother then raised  
10 6 boys alone; and

11           WHEREAS, Shorty Mills is one of the most respected living  
12 martial art instructors in the world; his martial arts career  
13 began in 1956, at the age of 14; since that time, he has  
14 amassed the following credentials: 10th Degree Black Belt in  
15 Pagoda Ryu (1996); Founder of the Pagoda Ryu Martial Arts  
16 System, which was tested and certified as a viable system of  
17 martial arts in 1996 by the world Martial Arts Federation and  
18 the Midwest United Martial Arts Association; 10th Degree Black  
19 Belt in Shuri Ryu (1996); 10th Degree Black Belt in Moo Do Kwon  
20 Tae Kwon Do (1993); 6th Degree Black Belt in Aikido from the  
21 Yoshinkai System of Aikido (1985); 5th Degree Black Belt in  
22 Kendo (1980); he is also a licensed airplane pilot (instrument  
23 rated), a certified diver (multi-ratings), a licensed

1 electrical engineer and electrical contractor, and a member of  
2 the Rotary Club and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and

3 WHEREAS, Shorty Mills attended and graduated from Chicago  
4 Vocational High School; he subsequently earned his bachelor's  
5 degree in electrical engineering from the Illinois Institute of  
6 Technology in 1964, his master's degree in operations research  
7 from Roosevelt University in 1982, his master's degree in urban  
8 development/city planning from Northwestern University in  
9 1985, and his Ph.D. in martial science from the University of  
10 Connecticut in 1995; and

11 WHEREAS, Shorty Mills joined the United States Navy in  
12 1964; in 1965, he was admitted into the United States Navy  
13 Officers Candidate School; in 1968, he served in Vietnam for a  
14 total of 26 months; after completing his two 13-month tours in  
15 Vietnam, he was stationed aboard the USS Sylvania for a year;  
16 he was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1969; and

17 WHEREAS, Shorty Mills played professional basketball in  
18 Italy in 1969 until an injury forced him to leave the game; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1986, Shorty Mills met the love of his life; in  
20 1995, he married Pamela Annette Mills; together, they have 2  
21 beautiful daughters, Christina and Tiffanie; in 1997, Shorty  
22 moved his family to Dynasty Lakes in Hazel Crest; and

1           WHEREAS, Shorty Mills' devotion to his art has extended  
2 into volunteering for various community events; he has  
3 developed self defense training programs for the Cook County  
4 Sheriff's Court Services Department; he has developed and  
5 taught rape prevention seminars for the Cook County Sheriff's  
6 Department and the Chicago Police Department; he also helps  
7 underprivileged children in becoming the best they can be  
8 through his non-profit organization, Pagoda Ryu System;  
9 therefore, be it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we honor Shorty Mills for his many accomplishments and thank  
13 him for his service to his community; and be it further

14           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to Shorty Mills as a symbol of our esteem and  
16 respect.