



HR0889

LRB097 20933 GRL 67988 r

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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 Robert
4 Lewis Lucas; and

5 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas was born on January 10, 1925; his
6 mother was Marie Lucas; he was raised by his grandparents in
7 Ronceverte, West Virginia; he married Anna Huffman on January
8 20, 1956; and

9 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas completed his primary education at
10 Cherry Rowe and Christopher Payne Elementary Schools in
11 Ronceverte, West Virginia; he subsequently attended Bolling
12 High School in Lewisburg, West Virginia; and

13 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas was drafted into the United States
14 Army on August 6, 1943; he served in Europe and was honorably
15 discharged in 1945; and

16 WHEREAS, After the war, Robert Lucas came to Chicago, where
17 he received his high school diploma from Wendell Phillips Night
18 School; he then earned his associate's degree from Wilson
19 College before enrolling in Roosevelt College (now Roosevelt
20 University); and

1 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas began his career as a civil rights
2 activist in 1959; he was a founding member of the Congress of
3 Racial Equality (C.O.R.E.) and became the Chairman of the
4 Chicago Chapter of C.O.R.E. in 1965; in 1968, he joined the
5 Black Liberation Alliance and became Executive Director of the
6 Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (K.O.C.O.); he retired
7 from his leadership position in K.O.C.O. in 2000, but continued
8 to regularly attend the organization's meetings; and

9 WHEREAS, During his tenure at K.O.C.O., Robert Lucas was
10 instrumental in the organization's efforts to keep the
11 Blackstone Rangers gang away from the Kenwood neighborhood of
12 Chicago; he is also responsible for numerous initiatives to
13 revitalize the Kenwood neighborhood and the creation of many
14 improvements to the neighborhood, including the KOMED Holman
15 Medical Center; and

16 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas was a member of the Congregational
17 Church of Park Manor, United Church of Christ; he was an
18 ordained deacon, a life member of the church's Justice and
19 Witness Committee, an officer in the Men's Fellowship, an
20 active member of the January Birth Month Circle, and a past
21 Vice Moderator and Moderator of the church; and

22 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas enjoyed traveling with his wife; they
23 enjoyed multiple cruises to the Caribbean, and extensively

1 traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and
2 several European countries; and

3 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas was preceded in death by his beloved
4 stepson, William (Billy) Raymond Porter; his mother; his
5 grandparents; and 13 aunts and uncles; and

6 WHEREAS, Robert Lucas is survived by his adoring wife,
7 Anna; his son, Lambert; his uncle, Calvin (Buddy) Lucas; his
8 aunt, Daisy Wood; and his many nieces, nephews, cousins, and
9 friends; 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 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
13 Robert Lewis Lucas; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Robert Lucas as an expression of our
16 sympathy.