



HR1287

LRB098 22903 MST 61853 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Wilbert L. Smith of Chicago on the occasion of his 80th birthday; and

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WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith was born on October 13, 1934 in Jackson, Mississippi to James Smith and Sallie M. Chrismon-Smith; he moved with his family to Chicago in June of 1955; he graduated from Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Mississippi in 1957 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics; he received his Master of Arts in Business Administration from Governors State University in 1976, and also attended the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Chicago Teachers College (now Chicago State University), and Loyola University Chicago Graduate School; and

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WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith began teaching at John Marshall Metropolitan High School in February of 1958; in 1963, he left his position to pursue a career in health care and hospital administration, spending more than 10 years in the field; he worked as a sales consultant for the service station operations of the Humble Oil and Refining Company and for the Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) as a Financial Analyst; for 11 years, he worked as the Director of Community Relations at South Shore Hospital; he returned to John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook

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1 County as a Financial Case Worker while teaching GED classes at
2 Olive-Harvey College; he retired in 1991 from John H. Stroger,
3 Jr. Hospital as Program Planner for the Department of Planning,
4 Education, and Research; and

5 WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith's 38-year career included many
6 leadership positions; he recruited Fortune 500 corporations to
7 hire students and offer scholarships at Malcolm X College,
8 where he also improved operations and management of the Co-Op
9 Education & Mid-Management Programs; he was the first black
10 president of the Illinois Society for Healthcare Marketing and
11 Public Relations, the first black keynote speaker at the
12 Illinois Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public
13 Relations' Annual Conference, and the first Director of
14 Community Relations at South Shore Hospital; he was past
15 president of the Chicago Tougaloo College Alumni Association
16 for 2 terms and past Vice President and President of the
17 Tougaloo College National Alumni Association; he organized the
18 alumni chapters of the Tougaloo College National Alumni
19 Association in Milwaukee and Pittsburgh, and was the Director
20 of Fundraising for the Chicago chapter; he was the organizer of
21 the Chicago Public Schools Teachers' Campaign for the United
22 Negro College Fund (UNCF) and a past president of the Chicago
23 Inter-Alumni Council for UNCF; and

24 WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith has received numerous recognitions

1 over the course of his career; he was the Tougaloo College
2 Alumnus of the Year in 1980; he was the recipient of the
3 Chicago Tougaloo College Alumni Association's Austin C. Moore,
4 Jr. Award and recipient of Certificates for Meritorious Service
5 from the UNCF and the Chicago Tougaloo College Alumni
6 Association; he was listed in 2 editions of Who's Who in the
7 Midwest; and

8 WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith's present and former memberships
9 include: life member, Tougaloo College National Alumni
10 Association and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; member, Xi
11 Lambda Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; member,
12 Chicago Tougaloo College Alumni Association; member, Tougaloo
13 College National Alumni Association Hall of Fame 1996;
14 representative for Tougaloo College, Chicago Inter-Alumni
15 Council, United Negro College Fund, Inc.; member, Park Manor
16 Congregational Church, Chicago; Chairman, Scholarship
17 Committee, Thomas Jackson, Jr. Cultural Foundation, Chicago;
18 the National Association of Health Services Executives;
19 member, Hospital Wide Patient Education Committee, John H.
20 Stroger, Jr. Hospital; member, Medical Education Committee,
21 John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital; Advisory Committee, Chicago
22 Public Schools Teachers' Campaign, United Negro College Fund;
23 board member, Community Supportive Living Systems, Inc.,
24 Chicago; member, American College of Healthcare Executives,
25 Chicago; member, John Marshall Metropolitan High School "M"

1 Club and Alumni Association, Chicago; former board member,
2 Community Mental Health Center, Chicago; former member, Youth
3 Motivation Program, Chicago Public Schools; former board
4 member, Chatham YMCA (now South Central Community Services,
5 Inc.); former board member, Tougaloo College National Alumni
6 Association; former Chairman, Church in Society Committee,
7 Park Manor Congregational Church; former member, South Shore
8 Ministerial Association, Chicago; and

9 WHEREAS, Wilbert Smith is married to Dr. Sandra Smith; they
10 have 2 daughters, Jennifer Smith and Nicole Smith Clark, and 3
11 granddaughters, Amber, Autumn, and Ashleigh; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we congratulate Wilbert L. Smith on his 80th birthday and wish
15 him many more wonderful years; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to Wilbert Smith as an expression of our esteem and
18 respect.