



HR0163

LRB104 12588 LAW 23169 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 Joseph  
4 Paul "Joe" Buford, who passed away on February 2, 2025; and

5           WHEREAS, Joe Buford was born in Chicago on August 24,  
6 1966; he attended Chicago Vocational High School, where he was  
7 a music major, the first chair trombonist in the band, and a  
8 member of the U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training  
9 Corps (JROTC); he was great at mastering his gift with music,  
10 later becoming an extraordinary DJ known as the "Chi Town Boy  
11 Wonder"; he received his Bachelor of Science in Administration  
12 of Justice from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in  
13 1990, where he became a member of the Gamma Upsilon chapter of  
14 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated in 1989; and

15           WHEREAS, Joe Buford served in the U.S. Navy before later  
16 transferring to the U.S. Army, where he became a commissioned  
17 officer; he commanded multiple organizations at various levels  
18 throughout his career, and his military service included being  
19 stationed in Iraq; after 30 years of service, he served as a  
20 military police officer, retiring with the rank of lieutenant  
21 colonel; and

22           WHEREAS, Joe Buford started his law enforcement career

1 with the Chicago Housing Authority in 1992; he proceeded to  
2 join the Chicago Police Department in 1994; he then moved to  
3 Vacaville, California in 1999, where he settled in the Bay  
4 Area while caring for his children and family; he worked for  
5 the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, where he retired as  
6 a lieutenant in 2024 after 25 years of service; and

7 WHEREAS, Joe Buford was a well-rounded man in terms of the  
8 activities and sports he pursued; he was a 32nd Degree Prince  
9 Hall Master Mason; he enjoyed watching the Chicago Bears and  
10 telling adventurous stories about his life; he loved  
11 traveling, bowling, and playing spades and dominoes; he also  
12 loved DJing, dancing, listening to music, and hanging out and  
13 laughing with family and friends; and

14 WHEREAS, Joe Buford was a man of faith, respectability,  
15 and pride and lived his life to its fullest potential, always  
16 presenting himself in an exemplary fashion, coordinating in  
17 color and style; he will be remembered for his infectious  
18 personality, kind heart, and loving, entertaining spirit; and

19 WHEREAS, Joe Buford was preceded in death by his parents,  
20 Carolyn McCall-Stroud and Rodger Hickman, and his siblings,  
21 Anthony Buford, Reginald McCall, Darnell Hickman, Kevin  
22 Hickman, and Satoy Robinson; and

1           WHEREAS, Joe Buford is survived by his children, Breana  
2           Buford and Joseph Buford II; his partner, Nichele; his  
3           stepchildren, Ebony Young, Alnita (William "Doug") Odom, and  
4           Marlon Simpson Jr.; his bonus children, Jamari Sanders and  
5           Makayla Walker; his siblings, Yonetta "Penny" (Bryant) Miller,  
6           Roger (Barbara) Hickman Jr., and Sanora Hickman; his  
7           sister-in-law, LaTisha (the late Reginald) McCall; his aunts,  
8           Jacqueline (Edward) Buford-Nightingale and Verna Hickman; his  
9           cousin/sister, Tanya "Tan" (Dwayne) Hellams; his cousin, Dr.  
10          Victor Buford; and a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews,  
11          cousins, relatives, and close friends; therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
13          HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
14          we mourn the passing of Joseph Paul "Joe" Buford and extend our  
15          sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
16          and loved him; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18          presented to the family of Joe Buford as an expression of our  
19          deepest sympathy.