



HR0971

LRB102 29323 LAW 41301 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 Esther
4 Wong of Chicago, who passed away on October 9, 2022; and

5 WHEREAS, Esther Wong was born in Hong Kong and came to the
6 United States to study; she earned her master's degree from
7 the School of Social Service Administration at the University
8 of Chicago; she made Illinois her home; and

9 WHEREAS, Esther Wong served as the co-founder, a board
10 member, and the board vice chair of the Chinese American
11 Service League (CASL), the largest social service agency in
12 the Midwest, which has been serving Asian Americans for the
13 past 40 years, providing senior care and housing, vocational
14 training and employment services, housing assistance, child
15 care, youth programs, and other services; she served as
16 executive director of CASL for 15 years from 2002 to 2017, and
17 in honor of her retirement, CASL dedicated its grand hall as
18 the Esther Wong Harmony Hall; and

19 WHEREAS, Esther Wong participated in numerous city,
20 county, and state commissions and councils, representing the
21 needs of immigrants; she served as a board member of the
22 National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA), the Chinese

1 Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI), the
2 Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACCC), the Coalition for
3 a Better Chinese American Community (CBCAC), the Chicago
4 Chinatown Security Foundation, the Coalition of Limited
5 English Speaking Elderly (CLESE), and the National Coalition
6 for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National
7 CAPACD); and

8 WHEREAS, Esther Wong made a lifelong commitment to the
9 betterment of the Chinese American and Asian American
10 community; her service impacted thousands of families in
11 Chicago and beyond; she quietly modeled exemplary leadership
12 for both CASL staff and leaders in the Asian American
13 community; and

14 WHEREAS, Esther Wong was a loving mother, a caring wife, a
15 loyal friend, a dependable colleague, a respectful boss, an
16 empathic listener, an inspiring teacher, a role model, a
17 mentor, and a tireless servant to the Asian American
18 community; and

19 WHEREAS, Esther Wong is survived by her husband, David
20 Wong; her sons, Ernest (Minnie Fontenelle) Wong and Jovial
21 (Janice Yoo) Wong; and her grandchildren, Vienne Wong and
22 Ronin Wong; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we mourn the passing of Esther Wong and extend our sincere
4 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
5 her; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Esther Wong as an expression of our
8 deepest sympathy.