

House Resolution No. 3279

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives truly were saddened by the death of their former colleague, the Honorable Phil B. Curls, Sr., on Friday, May 4, 2007, at the age of sixty-five; and

Whereas, born on April 2, 1942, and educated at DeLaSalle High School and Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Phil Curls was a real estate appraiser and developer whose social conscience and strong desire to improve the quality of life in his hometown and throughout the state led him to run for election to the Missouri House of Representatives, which he joined in the freshman class of 1972; and

Whereas, Phil Curls was a diligent, faithful, and conscientious member of the House of Representatives until 1983 when he earned special election to the Missouri Senate, an August legislative body through which he served the people and institutions of the Ninth District until 1998; and

Whereas, during his long, illustrious tenure with the legislative branch of state government, Phil Curls proved instrumental in the passage of bills related to economic development, housing, child and family services, health care, education, and insurance; and

Whereas, Phil Curls was a founding member of the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, which is a nonprofit scholarship organization that has disbursed nearly \$1 million in academic scholarships, and of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, which he served as its inaugural Secretary; and

Whereas, another entity close to the heart of Phil Curls was Freedom, Incorporated, which he served as a President who dedicated an exceptional amount of time and energy to increasing representation of the Kansas City African American community in elective office at the local, state, and national levels of service; and

Whereas, the late Phil Curls is survived by his beloved wife of forty-three years, councilwoman Melba Curls; children, Monica, Phil, Jr., Michael, Louie, and Quincy; father, Fred A. Curls; siblings, Darwin Curls, Darrel Curls, Janice Parker, and Karen Curls; and a host of extended relatives:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to memorialize the life and work of the late Senator Phil Curls and to convey this legislative body's most heartfelt condolences to his family members, friends, colleagues, and neighbors who now miss his considerable strength, warmth, and light in their daily lives; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in memory of the Honorable Phil B. Curls, Sr., of Kansas City, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Shalonn Curls
District No. 41

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3279, adopted Msy 8, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker