

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 209
OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CAROL AMMONS

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Deacon Willie T. Summerville of Urbana, who passed away on March 7, 2017 at the age of 73; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville contributed a great deal to the Champaign-Urbana community over his 50 years in the area; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville had an overwhelming and abundant faith in Jesus Christ and was committed to sharing that faith with every life he touched; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville served as a minister of music and Sunday School teacher; he was an active member of the PACE/SWAT ministries at Canaan Baptist Church, conducting door-to-door evangelism throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville had a profound love for music, and in particular, for sacred music; he worked to foster his love of music in primary, middle, secondary, and higher education throughout his community, including at Urbana High School, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign African American Studies, Canaan Baptist Church, Canaan Academy, St. Luke CME Church, and Hinds College in Hinds, Mississippi; he conducted countless music workshops throughout the country and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Although Deacon Summerville can never be replaced, continuing to follow his examples of love, service, joy, and encouragement will improve the lives of many of those in his community; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Valerian Summerville; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Summerville is survived by his children, Derrick (Roslyn) Arnett, Shandra Alexander, and William (Danielle) Moses; his grandchildren, Darius (Jazmine) Julian, Adrian Rochelle, Makeda Gabriel, Jaxon Allery, and Ezekiel Thomas; his great-granddaughter, Amiyah Amani; hundreds of former students from his teaching career; many godchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, special friends, and students throughout the nation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Deacon Willie T. Summerville, and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Deacon Summerville as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

Adopted by the House of Representatives on March 15, 2017.

Timothy D. Mapes
TIMOTHY D. MAPES
CLERK OF THE HOUSE



Michael J. Madigan
MICHAEL J. MADIGAN
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE