

2011 Assembly Joint Resolution 74

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and public service of Cecil B. Brown, Jr.

Whereas, Cecil B. Brown, Jr., was born on July 29, 1926, in Chicago, Illinois, and died on June 17, 2006, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and

Whereas, he earned a Ph. B. degree in business administration from Marquette University; and Whereas, Mr. Brown was elected to the Wisconsin assembly in 1954 representing Milwaukee's 13th District during the 1955 session; and

Whereas, while in the legislature, Mr. Brown served on the Committee on Commerce and Manufacturers; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown served in a predominately white district, and his achievement became an exemplar of black political empowerment; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown married his wife, Loretta, in 1965; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown worked tirelessly for civil rights, equality, and justice for minorities during and after his tenure in the legislature; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown broke down barriers, including the exclusion of African-Americans from trade unions in Milwaukee; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown was a founding member of the Milwaukee chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality in 1963, bringing, along with a handful of others, "raw enthusiasm" to Milwaukee's emerging civil rights movement; and

Whereas, one of his greatest contributions was his battle with the unions to allow African Americans to participate in the trades; and

Whereas, he was also heavily involved with the Milwaukee Public Schools, fighting for the rights of the students to be taught so they would have a chance in the world; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown was well-liked and respected by many while never biting his tongue about various community and social issues, nor hesitant about confronting colleagues when he felt their actions veered away from the public's interests; and

Whereas, not only was he central in organizing and participating in many social acidities, he was an accomplished debater, plus a quarter-mile and half-mile track star; and

Whereas, Mr. Brown will be remembered for principled leadership; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service that Cecil B. Brown, Jr., contributed to this state and his community, express their sorrow at his death, and extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to Mr. Brown's wife, Loretta, and to his daughters, Faith Aguilar, Hope Greenebaum, and Cecile Brown.

Senator Michael G. Ellis President of the Senate	Representative Jeff Fitzgerald Speaker of the Assembly
Date	Patrick E. Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk