



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Cordelia Lewis
Burks.

Porter

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20053317

2005

HC 1068/DI 84+



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Cordelia Lewis Burks.

Whereas, After years of dedicated service, Cordelia Lewis Burks is retiring as the Director of the Politics and Legislation Division of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees International Union of Indiana;

Whereas, In 1980, after working 20 years in the nursing and administrative areas at Central State Hospital, Cordelia accepted a position with the Indiana State AFL-CIO as the first black staff representative for the labor federation of over 300,000 union members;

Whereas, After spending six years with the Indiana AFL-CIO as director of labor education and director of community services and directing the state federation's programs of Volunteers in Politics and labor education, she accepted a position in Washington, D.C. as the Civil Rights Director for the Service Employees International Union;

Whereas, Although Cordelia enjoyed her time in Washington, she soon became homesick for the Midwest;

Whereas, Cordelia returned to Indianapolis and began working as the first black female business agent for Local 135 of the Teamsters Union;

Whereas, In early 1989, Cordelia was offered the position



of directing the programs of politics and legislation in Indiana for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees International Union;

Whereas, In this position, Cordelia was the union's chief lobbyist in Indiana and traveled the nation working in campaigns and providing political education training programs for union members;

Whereas, In addition to her service with the union, Cordelia served Governor Frank O'Bannon as a member of the 317 Task Force for Development Disabilities and was a member of the board of the Central Indiana Community Services Council;

Whereas, Although Cordelia maintained a very busy schedule, she always had time to serve her community;

Whereas, Cordelia serves as a board member of the National A. Philip Randolph Institute, and is a member of the National Labor Ad Hoc Committee of the NAACP and the National Council of Negro Women, the labor roundtable of the National Conference of Black State Legislators and the Indiana Democratic African American Caucus, the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus, and the Executive Council of the National Coalition of Black Trade Unionists;

Whereas, Cordelia is also a board member of the Indiana Women Historical Society and Women for Better Government, served on the State Board of the Citizens Action Coalition and the Indianapolis Urban League Advisory Committee, served as the Indiana Labor Chair of the United Negro College Fund and the Labor Advisory Committee of Indianapolis; and in 1990, Governor Evan Bayh appointed her to the Indiana Coal Forum; and

Whereas, Cordelia Lewis Burks was born in the coal mining area of Eastern Kentucky, but she is truly a Hoosier at heart: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly thanks Cordelia
2 Lewis Burks for her years of dedicated service to her state and her
3 community and wishes her happiness and contentment in her
4 retirement.

5 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
6 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Cordelia
7 Lewis Burks and her family.

