

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-89

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 11, 2023

To recognize and honor Jerry Sterling Cooper for his contributions and dedication to the District of Columbia on the occasion of his passing on May 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, it is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Jerry Sterling Cooper, a beloved and respected member of the Washington, DC community;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper was a political advisor and sports enthusiast who dedicated his life to public service and made significant contributions to our city;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper's service in the Navy during World War II, including his time at the Great Lakes Training Center and his interactions with notable athletes such as Claude "Buddy" Young and Larry Doby, showcased his bravery and resilience;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper played semi-professional basketball for the Washington Bears, an all-Black team that played for several years before integration of the National Basketball Association;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper's 31-year career at the U.S. Census Bureau made a lasting impact and exemplified his dedication and expertise as he worked in the areas of foreign trade, business, economic development, and public information;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper's involvement in DC politics, including his contributions as a member of the DC Gambling Study Commission, three-term chair of the Ward One Democrats, and delegate to Democratic National Conventions, showcased his commitment to advancing our city's interests;

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WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper’s passion for sports was unparalleled, and his encyclopedic knowledge made him a cherished companion for engaging conversations on various sporting events and demonstrated his unwavering commitment and enthusiasm for the world of athletics;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper’s participation in historical moments, such as casting a District of Columbia Electoral College Vote for presidential candidate Barack Hussein Obama, demonstrated the importance of his long-standing commitment to democratic values and civic engagement;

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper’s involvement with organizations such as the NAACP, the Capitol Press Club, the National Urban League, University Legal Services, and Woodley House exemplified his dedication to social justice, journalism, and community welfare; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Cooper will be remembered as a person whose 101 years brightened the lives of those around him and left an indelible mark on our city.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Jerry Sterling Cooper Memorial Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2 The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the contributions made by Jerry Sterling Cooper to the residents of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.