

Senate Resolution 996

By: Senator Miller of the 49th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dikembe Mutombo; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dikembe Mutombo has long been recognized for the vital role that he has  
3 played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the welfare of the Democratic  
4 Republic of the Congo; and

5 WHEREAS, Dikembe played professional basketball in the National Basketball Association  
6 (NBA) for 18 years before retiring from the Houston Rockets in 2009; and

7 WHEREAS, giving back has always been a trademark of this Hall of Famer ever since he  
8 entered the NBA in 1991; in 1996, Dikembe paid for the Congo's women's basketball team's  
9 trip to Atlanta for the Summer Olympics games and also covered the track team's uniforms  
10 and expenses; and

11 WHEREAS, Dikembe is the chairman and president of the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation,  
12 which aims to improve the health, education, and quality of life for the people of the  
13 Democratic Republic of the Congo and built a general hospital in the capital city, Kinshasa;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, he currently serves on the boards of the Centers for Disease Control and  
16 Prevention, the National Constitution Center, Special Olympics International, and the United  
17 States Fund for UNICEF; and

18 WHEREAS, his athletic and philanthropic contributions have earned him recognition as  
19 ABC's Person of the Week, *Essence Magazine's* 2001 Achiever, and *Sporting News'* No. 1  
20 Good Guy and numerous awards, including the 2019 Yolanda H. King Higher Ground  
21 Award, 2017 Trumpet Humanitarian Award, 2014 Chairman's Award and Trailblazer Award  
22 from the 100 Black Men of America, 2014 Humanitarian of the Year from FOCOS, and 2013  
23 Congressional Humanitarian Award; and

24 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
25 remarkable and distinguished individual be appropriately recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 recognize and commend Dikembe Mutombo for his humanitarianism and extend the most  
28 sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dikembe  
31 Mutombo.