

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename U.S. 20 in Lake County for the late Mayor Rudolph "Rudy" Clay.

ROGERS

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department
2 of Transportation to rename U.S. 20 in Lake County for the late Mayor
3 Rudolph "Rudy" Clay.

4 *Whereas, Rudolph "Rudy" Clay dutifully served the people*
5 *of Gary and Lake County in a variety of capacities throughout*
6 *four decades of public life;*

7 *Whereas, Rudy was born on July 16, 1935 in Alabama, and*
8 *moved to Indiana at a very young age;*

9 *Whereas, Rudy is a graduate of Roosevelt High School and*
10 *attended Indiana University;*

11 *Whereas, Prior to politics, Rudy served two years in the*
12 *United States Army, and worked as an insurance agent in*
13 *Midtown, Indiana;*

14 *Whereas, Rudy marched with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.*
15 *and Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. at Gage Park in Chicago during the*
16 *1960s;*

17 *Whereas, Rudy was elected to the Indiana State Senate in*
18 *1972 to represent Indiana's 3rd District. He was the only*
19 *African-American Senator in the General Assembly at the time;*

20 *Whereas, As a Senator, Rudy worked towards better*
21 *treatment of prison inmates, a victims' compensation fund, a*



1 *tenants' bill of rights, making Martin Luther King Jr. a state*
2 *holiday, closing the Gary city dump, and fought against*
3 *discriminatory hiring practices;*

4 *Whereas, Rudy was called on by then-Gov. Otis Bowen to*
5 *negotiate a hostage situation in 1973 at the Indiana State*
6 *Prison in Michigan City. The rioting inmates ended the 35-hour*
7 *siege after they spoke with Clay;*

8 *Whereas, Following the State Senate, Rudy was elected to*
9 *the Lake County Council, 2nd District, and served there from*
10 *1978 to 1984;*

11 *Whereas, Rudy was elected Lake County Recorder in 1984;*

12 *Whereas, In 1986, Rudy was shot at outside of his home by*
13 *unidentified assailants. No charges were ever filed;*

14 *Whereas, The State Democratic Central Committee named*
15 *Rudy the Lake County Party Chairman, a position in which he*
16 *served from 2005 to 2009. Clay was the first African-American*
17 *head of the Lake County Democratic Party;*

18 *Whereas, Following the resignation of Mayor Scott King,*
19 *Rudy became Mayor in 2006. He would go on to win a popular*
20 *election for mayor in 2007;*

21 *Whereas, Rudy served as Mayor of Gary, Indiana from*
22 *2006 through 2011. He decided not to seek reelection due to*
23 *health concerns; and*

24 *Whereas, Rudy passed away on June 4, 2013 at the age of*
25 *77: Therefore,*

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

28 SECTION 1. The Indiana General Assembly recognizes
29 Rudolph "Rudy" Clay for his many accomplishments and
30 steadfast dedication to the people of Gary, Lake County, and the



1 State of Indiana by urging the Indiana Department of
2 Transportation to rename U.S. 20 in Lake County in his honor.

3 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
4 to transmit copies of this resolution to the Indiana Department
5 of Transportation and Rudy's family.

