

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 81

BY SENATOR FIELDS

A RESOLUTION

To express heartfelt and sincere condolences to the family of Alvin L. Sparrow Sr. on the occasion of his passing.

WHEREAS, Alvin L. Sparrow Sr. was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 7, 1937, to the late Leler Hawkins O'Connor and Clarence Sparrow and was raised by his late stepfather, Thomas O'Connor; and

WHEREAS, Alvin L. Sparrow Sr. lived in Chicago, Illinois, for over 50 years and retired from the Chicago Transit Authority as a bus operator returning to his hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to enjoy his well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sparrow truly loved his country and was a Vietnam Veteran who enjoyed everyone he encountered, giving abundantly and being the good neighbor to all; and

WHEREAS, while living in Illinois, Alvin was a faithful member of Christ Community Church in Chicago, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Merlon M. Jackson; and

WHEREAS, when he relocated to Baton Rouge, he became a member of Greater Mount Gideon Baptist Church where he was baptized by the late Pastor Edward Howard, and while prevented from congregating due to COVID, Alvin was shepherded under the direction of Rev. Manny Metoyer; and

WHEREAS, a ubiquitous individual with an entrepreneurial spirit and who was always bartering or trading something to sell; Alvin was referred to as "Al", "Mr. Gold", "Big Daddy", "Big Al", and many more affectionate names; and

WHEREAS, a father, friend, grandfather, uncle, cousin to many, as in his mind, he never met a stranger, Alvin is preceded in death by his parents, siblings Rufus, Lloyd, and Brenda Jean O'Connor, and both maternal and paternal grandparents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sparrow is survived by Christine Sparrow, Baton Rouge, LA, Marlene (Kazeem) Oloko, Chicago, IL, Alvin (Patricia) Sparrow, Baton Rouge, LA, Michael (Saundra) Sparrow, Gonzales, LA, Sherese Thurman-Lott, Laura Sparrow, both of Chicago, IL, and two stepchildren Sonia Sylvester, Chicago, IL and Robert Sylvester, Las Vegas, NV;

five brothers, Melvin, Larry (Trimina), Leroy (Paulette), Donald (Betty), Thomas Gerald, and Morrison O'Connor; four sisters-in-laws: Edna L. Sparrow, Pinkie (John) Clark, Leontine D. McCall (Stewart) and Leonetta Dillon and brother-in-law, Donald George, all of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Louis Sparrow Sr. lived a fulfilling and dedicated life and his passing leaves a void in the community where he will be truly missed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Alvin Louis Sparrow Sr. on the occasion of his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Alvin Louis Sparrow Sr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE