



2011 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 74

November 3, 2011 - Introduced by Representatives KESSLER, E. COGGS, TURNER, STEINBRINK, GRIGSBY, TOLES and YOUNG, cosponsored by Senators S. COGGS and TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Cecil B. Brown, Jr.

2 Whereas, Cecil B. Brown, Jr., was born on July 29, 1926, in Chicago, Illinois,
3 and died on June 17, 2006, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and

4 Whereas, he earned a Ph. B. degree in business administration from Marquette
5 University; and

6 Whereas, Mr. Brown was elected to the Wisconsin assembly in 1954
7 representing Milwaukee's 13th District during the 1955 session; and

8 Whereas, while in the legislature, Mr. Brown served on the Committee on
9 Commerce and Manufacturers; and

10 Whereas, Mr. Brown served in a predominately white district, and his
11 achievement became an exemplar of black political empowerment; and

12 Whereas, Mr. Brown married his wife, Loretta, in 1965; and

13 Whereas, Mr. Brown worked tirelessly for civil rights, equality, and justice for
14 minorities during and after his tenure in the legislature; and

1 Whereas, Mr. Brown broke down barriers, including the exclusion of
2 African-Americans from trade unions in Milwaukee; and

3 Whereas, Mr. Brown was a founding member of the Milwaukee chapter of the
4 Congress of Racial Equality in 1963, bringing, along with a handful of others, “raw
5 enthusiasm” to Milwaukee’s emerging civil rights movement; and

6 Whereas, one of his greatest contributions was his battle with the unions to
7 allow African Americans to participate in the trades; and

8 Whereas, he was also heavily involved with the Milwaukee Public Schools,
9 fighting for the rights of the students to be taught so they would have a chance in the
10 world; and

11 Whereas, Mr. Brown was well-liked and respected by many while never biting
12 his tongue about various community and social issues, nor hesitant about
13 confronting colleagues when he felt their actions veered away from the public’s
14 interests; and

15 Whereas, not only was he central in organizing and participating in many social
16 activities, he was an accomplished debater, plus a quarter-mile and half-mile track
17 star; and

18 Whereas, Mr. Brown will be remembered for principled leadership; now,
19 therefore, be it

20 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
21 Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service that Cecil B. Brown, Jr.,
22 contributed to this state and his community, express their sorrow at his death, and
23 extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

