



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

*Introduced by: Hatcher, Harris, Jackson C, Bartlett, Burton,
Pack, Porter, Pryor, Shackelford, Smith V, Summers*

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring the life and legacy of
2 Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

3 *Whereas, Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., a prominent*
4 *Baptist minister, two-time U.S. presidential candidate, and*
5 *nationally recognized leader of the modern Civil Rights*
6 *Movement, passed away on February 17, 2026, at the age of*
7 *84;*

8 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson was born in Greenville, South*
9 *Carolina, in 1941, graduated from Sterling High School,*
10 *attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and*
11 *later transferred to and graduated from North Carolina A&T*
12 *State University in 1964;*

13 *Whereas, While a student at North Carolina A&T, he became*

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1 *active in the Civil Rights Movement through the Congress of*
2 *Racial Equality and student-led direct action efforts advocating*
3 *for desegregation and equal rights;*

4 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson moved to Chicago in 1964,*
5 *where he worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and*
6 *later served with the Southern Christian Leadership*
7 *Conference;*

8 *Whereas, As a leader within the Southern Christian*
9 *Leadership Conference, Reverend Jackson directed Operation*
10 *Breadbasket in Chicago, an initiative established by Dr. King*
11 *to promote economic justice through corporate accountability,*
12 *employment opportunities, and community investment;*

13 *Whereas, Throughout his lifetime, Reverend Jackson was*
14 *deeply engaged in local, national, and international efforts to*
15 *advance civil rights, leading protests, sit-ins, voter registration*
16 *initiatives, and diplomatic missions to promote peace and*
17 *democracy;*

18 *Whereas, He founded People United to Save Humanity in*
19 *1971 to advocate for economic empowerment, education, and*
20 *social justice. He later established the National Rainbow*
21 *Coalition in 1984 to build broad, multiracial political*
22 *coalitions committed to equity and opportunity;*

23 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson served as the first shadow*
24 *senator for the District of Columbia from 1991 to 1997 and was*
25 *appointed, in 1997, as Special Envoy of the President and the*
26 *Secretary of State for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa;*

27 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson maintained strong and enduring*
28 *ties to Indiana and the City of Gary, collaborating closely with*
29 *Gary Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher, who served as national*
30 *campaign chairman during Reverend Jackson's 1984 and 1988*
31 *U.S. presidential campaigns, and together they worked to*
32 *expand political participation and representation for*
33 *marginalized communities;*

34 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson's presidential campaigns helped*
35 *energize voter engagement across the nation, including in*



1 *Indiana, and paved the way for greater diversity and inclusion*
 2 *in American political leadership;*

3 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson's participation in the 1972*
 4 *National Black Political Convention held in Gary, Indiana,*
 5 *convened by poet and activist Amiri Baraka, Congressman*
 6 *Charles C. Diggs, Jr., and Gary Mayor Richard Gordon*
 7 *Hatcher, helped galvanize a national movement for Black*
 8 *independent political power and coalition building and marked*
 9 *a defining moment in modern Black political history;*

10 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson gave voice to communities too*
 11 *often unheard, challenged institutions to confront inequality,*
 12 *and expanded the boundaries of political possibility for millions*
 13 *of Americans; and*

14 *Whereas, Reverend Jackson exemplified servant leadership,*
 15 *dedicating his life to uplifting the oppressed, empowering the*
 16 *voiceless, and championing justice for all people. His enduring*
 17 *call to "Keep Hope Alive" continues to inspire future*
 18 *generations: Therefore,*

19 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
 20 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

21 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
 22 honors the life and legacy of Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.,
 23 and extends sympathies to his family, loved ones, and all those
 24 whose lives were touched by his service and leadership.

25 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
 26 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State
 27 Representative Ragen Hatcher for distribution.

