

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1818

A RESOLUTION in memory of Sherman Jones.

WHEREAS, Sherman Jones passed away Wednesday, February 21, 2007, at age 72, survived by his wife of 50 years, Amelia, and their children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Sherman was born February 10, 1935, in Winton, North Carolina to Starkey and Gladys Jones. He was the fifth of nine siblings. After completing high school at C.S. Brown High School in Winton, Sherman was recruited to begin his career in professional baseball where he eventually served as a pitcher for the San Francisco Giants, Cincinnati Reds, and New York Mets; and

WHEREAS, While playing minor league baseball in Topeka, Kansas, he met the love of his life, Amelia Buchanan, whom he married on December 16, 1956; and

WHEREAS, In 1961, Sherman, whose nickname was "Roadblock," pitched for the Cincinnati Reds in game 5 of the World Series. He was also the starting pitcher in the first ever home game for the New York Mets. Sherman's baseball career led him to travel to many places including Japan, South America and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, After his baseball career had ended, Sherman and his wife Amelia settled in Kansas City, Kansas to raise a family. He joined the Kansas City Police Department, where he dedicated 22 years of service as a detective sergeant and in that job he saw the first-hand effects of criminal activity on neighborhoods. He also served as athletic director for Turner House where he worked with inner city youth; and

WHEREAS, Sherman's career eventually led him to politics, where he was first elected in 1988 and served as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives from 1989 to 1992, followed by a seat in the Kansas Senate from 1993 to 2000, where he was able to make many changes to improve his community; and

WHEREAS, During his life, he dedicated his time and energy to many organizations. Sherman was a member of Optimist International where he served as an International Vice President. He also was a former member and chairman of the Wyandotte County Park Board, Kansas City Parks Foundation, Kansas High School Activities Association, United Way, Chairman of Kansas Legislative Black Caucus, and board member of the Kansas University Medical Center. Sherman was also recognized with numerous awards throughout his lifetime, including the National Black Caucus of State Legislators' prestigious Nation Builder Award; and

WHEREAS, Sherman was known for his calm and gentle demeanor and ability to work with people from all walks of life without regard to party affiliation; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his career and service to his community, Sherman also enjoyed many hobbies. He loved to golf, enjoyed fishing, and was an avid traveler, a passion that he instilled in his children: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we honor Sherman Jones for the public service he gave to his community and state, and extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Amelia, family and friends; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide five enrolled copies of this resolution to Mrs. Amelia Jones, 3736 Weaver Drive, Kansas City, Kansas 66104.

Senate Resolution No. 1818 was sponsored by Senators Haley, Hensley, Allen, Apple, Barnett, Barone, Betts, Brownlee, Bruce, Brungardt, Donovan, Emler, Francisco, Gilstrap, Goodwin, Huelskamp, Jordan, Journey, Kelly, Lee, Lynn, McGinn, Morris, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Petersen, Pine, Pyle, Reitz, D. Schmidt, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil, Wagle, Wilson and Wysong.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*