

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Brown C

A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring Richard Gordon Hatcher.

Whereas, Richard Hatcher was born on July 10, 1933, in Michigan City to Carlton and Catherine Goodwin Hatcher;

Whereas, Richard Hatcher received a B.S. degree in business and government from Indiana University and a bachelor of law with honors in criminal law and a J.D. from Valparaiso University School of Law;

Whereas, After moving to Gary, Richard Hatcher began practicing law in East Chicago, and, in 1961, began serving as a deputy prosecutor for Lake County until he was elected to Gary's City Council in 1963;

Whereas, Richard Hatcher was the first and only freshman elected president of the City Council in the history of the city;



Whereas, Inaugurated as Mayor of Gary in 1968, Richard Hatcher was one of the first elected African-American mayors of a United States metropolitan city and the first in Indiana;

Whereas, Richard Hatcher served an unprecedented five terms as mayor of Gary between the years of 1967 and 1987;

Whereas, While serving as mayor, Richard Hatcher became known throughout the world as a fervent and prolific civil rights spokesman who developed innovative approaches to urban problems and was a national and international spokesman for civil rights, minorities, the poor, and the needs of American cities;

Whereas, Richard Hatcher has served the Democratic Party on all levels - a member of the National Committee, a member of the Indiana State Democratic Central Committee, chairman of the Gary Democratic Precinct Organization, vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and chairman for Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign;

Whereas, As a result of his civil rights activities, Richard Hatcher has been the recipient of more than 100 awards and honors, including "200 Most Outstanding Young Leaders in the U.S." by Time Magazine and the President's Award from the National League of Cities;

Whereas, In addition to his work in the political arena, Richard Hatcher has worked as an Institute of Politics Fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, taught political science at Roosevelt University, became a senior research professor at Valparaiso University, taught a law course at Cambridge University in England, and currently serves as an adjunct professor at Indiana University-Northwest; and

Whereas, Richard Hatcher is a role model for African-Americans who aspire to success in our society: Therefore,

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



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives honors
2 Richard Gordon Hatcher for his many accomplishments and
3 achievements both in service to the state of Indiana, the city of Gary,
4 and his community.

5 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
6 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to Richard Gordon
7 Hatcher.

