



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



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Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/6/2012
Sponsor(s): Laurino, Margaret (39)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to late Lola McGowan
Committee(s) Assignment:

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan (nee Stewart), born in 1936, was called by God to her eternal reward on May 24, 2012, at the age of 75; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has been informed of her passing by The Honorable Margaret Laurino, Alderman of the 39th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan was an active and vital member of her community. The beloved wife of the late Adam McGowan; loving mother of Gregory, Rhonda Stivers and Allison McGowan; dear sister of LaVern Schaffer; cherished grandmother of three; Iola McGowan leaves a legacy of faith, compassion, dignity and love; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan grew up on Chicago's West Side and attended school at what is now Farragut Career Academy; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan continued her education years after leaving high school, earning a bachelor's degree in inner-city studies from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan got involved in politics at a very young age, starting as a community activist writing grants for a day care center in Lawndale; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan put the West Side on the map with citywide appointments and job opportunities, helping to elevate the West Side community; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan worked her way up in the Illinois Democratic Party from community activism and precinct-level politics to Vice Chair of the state party and Director of Consumer Services under Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan headed the Model Cities community services program. She helped develop and produce a classroom coloring book aimed at educating young people about nutrition and food shopping; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan also served as a Chicago Park District Commissioner, where she was able to represent the concerns of her West Side Community; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan took several runs at elective office; and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan was a Democratic State Central Committeewoman;
and

WHEREAS, Iola McGowan will be deeply missed, but the memory of her character, intelligence and compassion will on in those who knew and loved her; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this sixth day of June 2012, do hereby express our sorrow on

the death of lola McGowan and extend to her family and friends our deepest sympathy;
and

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of lola McGowan.



MARGARET LAURINO
Alderman, 39th Ward