
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1133 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY J. HARRIS, OCTOBER 9, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 9, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 9, 2018, as "Charles W. Bowser Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives recognizes that Charles
4 W. Bowser provided exemplary public service to the African-
5 American community and inspired a generation of African-American
6 politicians in Philadelphia; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser graduated from Central High School of
8 Philadelphia in 1948 and went on to attend Temple University,
9 where he received a bachelor of science degree in journalism in
10 1952 and a juris doctorate degree in 1957; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser was a dynamic civic leader and pillar of
12 the community, holding many positions, including Chief Counsel
13 for the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus, member of the
14 Pennsylvania Commission on Judicial Reform, member of the
15 Philadelphia City Council, member of the MOVE Commission, also
16 known as the Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission,
17 published author and poet, president of the Urban League of
18 Philadelphia and the first African-American Deputy Mayor in

1 Philadelphia's history; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser was an unyielding public servant who ran
3 two campaigns for mayor, inspiring a future generation of
4 African-American political leaders, blazing a trail for those
5 with the notion that public office was unachievable and proving
6 to voters that their voices united could be heard; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser, a brilliant lawyer and political
8 strategist for almost 40 years, mentored and encouraged
9 virtually every major African-American elected official from
10 Philadelphia in the last 25 years; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the course of his lifetime, Mr. Bowser received
12 numerous accolades, including the Man of the Year Award from the
13 Association of Black Journalists, the Philadelphia NAACP
14 Exceptional Civil Rights Service Award, the Humanitarian Award
15 presented by the AFNA International Humanitarian Award Committee
16 and many more; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser was an outspoken voice for equity, social
18 justice, fairness and democracy, making it his lifelong mission
19 to move a reform agenda encompassing all; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser generously gave his heart and time to
21 enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Philadelphia and
22 the vicinity, and his legacy will be forever remembered by the
23 many individuals who admired, loved and benefited from his many
24 contributions; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowser passed away on August 9, 2010, at 79
26 years of age and is survived by his son, Charles Bowser, II;
27 therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
29 October 9, 2018, as "Charles W. Bowser Day" in Pennsylvania; and
30 be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
2 Mr. Bowser's son, Charles Bowser, II.