

RONALD G. WATERS, MEMBER
191ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS
CHILDREN & YOUTH
HEALTH
JUDICIARY

PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS,
CHAIRMAN

- 6027 LUDLOW STREET, UNIT A
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19139
PHONE: (215) 748-6712
FAX: (215) 748-1687
- ROOM 328 K. LEROY IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202191
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2191
PHONE: (717) 772-9850
FAX: (717) 783-1516

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Ronald Waters

DATE:

SUBJECT: Request for Co-Sponsorship: Condolence Resolution Honoring the Late Edward W. Robinson, Jr.

In the near future I will introduce a resolution honoring the life and expressing condolences upon the death of Edward W. Robinson, Jr. A prominent Philadelphia business leader, public servant, and renowned author of African and African-American history, Mr. Robinson's work has contributed significantly to the curriculum of Philadelphia Public Schools and entrepreneurship among minority groups.

Mr. Robinson began his career in the insurance industry in 1950, becoming an owner of the Provident Home Industrial Mutual Life Insurance Company. By 1974, under Mr. Robinson's direction, the company ranked 20th among the nation's 100 biggest African-American-owned businesses by Black Enterprises Magazine.

In addition to being a successful business leader, Mr. Robinson was a dedicated public servant. After serving as a member of the board of directors for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, he was appointed by Governor Milton Shapp to direct the Pennsylvania Bureau of Occupational Affairs. Later, Mr. Robinson returned to Philadelphia to continue his public service on the local level in the city's Office of Minority Opportunities, where he eventually became the director and strived to elevate minority owned businesses.

Mr. Robinson was well known for his passion and advocacy of African and African-American history. His interests inspired him to coauthor such books as "Twas the Night Before Kwanza" and the "Journey of the Songhai People." In addition to his books, he drafted educational guidelines for teaching African-American history for the Philadelphia City School District. His love of teaching history was also present thorough the several books and films he produced about African and African-American history including an animated children's story, "The Songhai Princess," for which he won several national awards.

Due to his unwavering commitment to public service and entrepreneurship, and for his contributions to education in the African-American community and across the Commonwealth, I encourage you to join me in honoring the legacy of Mr. Edward Robinson.

If you wish to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Nilda Jenkins in my office at 772-9850, or email njenkins@pahouse.net.