

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-152

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 5, 2023

To celebrate the life and legacy of former government official, nonprofit executive and community leader Maudine Cooper on the recent occasion of her passing in November of 2023.

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper was born in Benoit, Mississippi on September 30, 1941;

WHEREAS, during the early years of her youth, Ms. Cooper's family moved north to St. Paul, Minnesota, where she lived until her graduation from high school;

WHEREAS, Maudine Cooper received an Bachelor's Degree in 1964, majoring in Business Administration, and received her Juris Doctorate from Howard University in 1971;

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper's leadership journey in the District started when she founded the "Thursday Network", a group that met on Thursdays and was dedicated to the professional and personal development of young professionals;

WHEREAS, she joined the National Urban League in 1973 as Assistant Director for Federal Programs and became Vice President for the Washington Operations Legislative Office in 1980;

WHEREAS, after leaving the National Urban League in 1983, Ms. Cooper became the Director of the Office of Human Rights in the Administration of Mayor Marion S. Barry, Jr., where she took on high profile cases and put her legal training and commitment to social justice into action;

WHEREAS, in 1989, she became Chief of Staff for the last 2 years of Marion S. Barry, Jr.'s third term in office;

WHEREAS, upon leaving the administration of Mayor Barry, Ms. Cooper was appointed President and CEO of the Greater Washington Urban League, where she served from 1990 to 2013;

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WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper also served on numerous boards and commission, including the District of Columbia Bar Association, the NAACP, the D.C. Agenda Project, and Leadership Washington;

WHEREAS, at age 82, Ms. Cooper passed away in November of 2023, but will never be forgotten.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Maudine Cooper Memorial Recognition Resolution of 2023.”

Sec. 2 The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the life Ms. Maudine Cooper, expressing our gratitude for her invaluable contributions to our community and her incredible legacy of service, advocacy and leadership.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.