

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-268

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 15, 2024

To recognize and honor the life and contributions of the late Marvin Turner for his extensive career in politics, community service, and social advocacy.

WHEREAS, Marvin Turner demonstrated a deep commitment to labor rights and social justice, notably serving as a political director for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in the successful organization of bus drivers in St. Paul and Minnesota, and lending his expertise to several political advance projects throughout the country;

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner worked at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) for over 20 years, where he served as Deputy Director in the Office of the Secretary tasked with organizing national meetings, certifying delegates for the 2008 and 2012 conventions, and maintaining the Party's official records and archives;

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner managed the successful Congressional campaign of Congressman John Barrow in Georgia's 12th District, which became one of the most closely watched races in the country, and his leadership extended into community service as CEO of the Cherry Community Organization in Charlotte, North Carolina;

WHEREAS, he served his community with distinction as Community Relations Liaison and Constituent Caseworker for Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, representing her at numerous community events and ensuring that the constituents of the District of Columbia received the support they needed from federal agencies;

WHEREAS, Marvin Turner's contributions were recognized through appointments to various commissions, including the Youth in Criminal Justice by former Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly, the Blacks in Criminal Justice Commission by the Bureau of Prisons and most recently, a Mayoral Appointee to the Sentencing Commission from 2012 to 2019;

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner exhibited an unwavering commitment to returning citizens, staffing the Commission on Black Men and Boys and serving as the D.C. Community Relations Liaison for the Rainbow Coalition;

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WHEREAS, in his 25 years of experience in the criminal justice field, Mr. Turner often visited inmates in jail to assist with human rights concerns;

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner was also a trusted liaison between the local DC Democratic Party, numerous other state parties, and the national DNC, always making himself available to communicate recent events and updates to the community.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Marvin Turner Memorial Recognition Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the life and legacy of Marvin Turner and expresses gratitude and appreciation for his tireless service to his community, his nation, and the cause of justice and equality. His memory will forever inspire those who seek to follow in his footsteps as advocates for political engagement, community leadership, and social change.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.