



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Candelaria Reardon

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing and honoring Mr.
2 Richard Morrisroe.

3 *Whereas, Richard Morrisroe was born in Chicago, Illinois,*
4 *in 1938;*

5 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe completed his studies at St. Mary of*
6 *the Lake Seminary in 1964 and worked as a Catholic priest in*
7 *three parishes until he returned to lay status in 1973;*

8 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe became increasingly involved in the*
9 *civil rights movement and quickly joined Dr. Martin Luther*
10 *King Jr.'s peaceful demonstrations in Chicago before attending*
11 *Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1965;*

12 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe was arrested in Fort Deposit,*
13 *Alabama, with almost twenty other demonstrators after*

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1 *organizing against economic discrimination;*

2 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe was released from jail with fellow*
3 *demonstrators including Mr. Jonathan Daniels and Mr. Stokely*
4 *Carmichael after nearly a week of confinement in Lowndes*
5 *County, Alabama;*

6 *Whereas, Less than an hour later Mr. Daniels, an Episcopal*
7 *seminarian, and Mr. Morrisroe were shot by a deputy sheriff*
8 *with a twelve gauge shotgun outside of a Hayneville, Alabama,*
9 *general store;*

10 *Whereas, Mr. Daniels died at the scene after saving the life*
11 *of Ruby Sales, who was in the path of the shotgun blast, and*
12 *Mr. Morrisroe was shot in the back;*

13 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe, with the help of eleven hours of*
14 *surgery and six months of hospitalization, has been blessed to*
15 *live and work in church ministry, city planning and municipal*
16 *law, higher education, and family life;*

17 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe carries with him a passion for*
18 *learning and community involvement, having earned a master's*
19 *degree in urban studies from Loyola University, a law degree*
20 *from Northwestern University, and a doctorate of ministry from*
21 *Catholic Theological Union in Hyde Park;*

22 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe has worked for the City of East*
23 *Chicago from 1973 to 1980 and then the Chicago Transit*
24 *Authority from 1986 to 2005 before he returned to East*
25 *Chicago in 2005, where he continues to work today;*

26 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe served as an adjunct professor of*
27 *sociology, religious studies, law and literature, and business*
28 *ethics at Indiana University Northwest, Gary, and at Calumet*
29 *College of St. Joseph, Hammond, from 1972 to 2018; and*

30 *Whereas, Mr. Morrisroe and his wife, Sylvia, and their*
31 *children, Richard, Jonathan, and Sioban, have been lifelong*
32 *residents of East Chicago: Therefore,*

33 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*



1 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

2 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
3 recognizes and honors Mr. Richard Morrisroe for his many
4 contributions to his community as a leader, civil servant, and
5 civil rights activist.

6 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
7 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State
8 Representative Mara Candalaria Reardon for distribution.

