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Councilmember Christina Henderson	
A CEREMONI	IAL RESOLUTION
IN THE COUNCIL OF TH	IE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
To recognize and honor the life contributions	and accomplishments of father friend bushend
community leader, and activist Joseph	and accomplishments of father, friend, husband,
community reader, and activist Joseph	DOWSCI.

WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser was born in Washington, D.C. on October 5, 1935 where he

was raised by his parents Leroy Bowser and Emily Wade Bowser along with his eight siblings;

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46	
47	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser was educated at St. Augustine's Catholic School followed
48	by Armstrong High School;
49	
50	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser graduated from Federal City College, which joined with two
51	schools to become District of Columbia University in 1975;
52	
53	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser married Joan Bowser on July 16, 1960, and the two raised
54	five children: Mercia, Muriel, Martin, Marvin, and Mark;
55	
56	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser devoted 44 years of his life working for the Board of
57	Education for the District of Columbia Public Schools, ensuring our city's students had clean and
58	safe buildings to flourish as students;
59	
60	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser, earning the respect of many academy teachers and staff,
61	introduced dozens of young men to government services, helping them earn a good living and
62	raise their families;
63	
64	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser enlisted in the Army reserves, serving as a Drill Sergeant
65	and Marksmanship Instructor from 1952 and 1955;
66	
67	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser graduated from Leadership Washington, now called
68	Leadership Greater Washington, in 1996, where he shared his experiences as a leader to help
69	bring positive community impact;
70	
71	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser was elected as ANC Commissioner for Single-Member
72	District 5A03, which includes Michigan Park, in 1979 and served in this role for over 30 years;
73	
74	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser worked as the chairperson of ANC 5A's public works
75	committee;
76	
77	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser and his family are residents of Ward 5 for more than 50
78	years;
79	
80	WHEREAS Joseph Bowser held multiple leadership positions in the North Michigan
81	Park Civic Association, and was known as the "fierce precinct captain' of precinct 66, having
82	championed many community issues using his vast political knowledge and unwavering
83	commitment to do what was right;
84	
85	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser directed his kids and neighborhood kids in community
86	service, on how to represent Ward 5 on various community issues;
87	

88	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser championed for a new North Michigan Park Recreation
89	Center;
90	
91	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser served as Lieutenant Governor of Division 1 of the Capital
92	District of Kiwanis International, an organization that prioritizes improving the health and
93	livelihoods of children and communities, in 2007 and 2008;
94	
95	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser was a faithful member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic
96	Church for more than 50 years, where he served as a lifetime member of the Knights of
97	Columbus and the Cursillos in Christianity;
98	
99	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser enjoyed the outdoors; often took his kids camping, fishing,
100	and boating; was a devotee of the Washington Nationals;
101	
102	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser was the first public figure Mayor Muriel Bowser admired,
103	and his good deeds are forever remembered by his children; and
104	
105	WHEREAS, Joseph Bowser passed on August 2, 2024, and leaves a legacy that will live
106	on in Ward 5, and the District of Columbia for generations to come.
107	
108	RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
109	resolution may be cited as the "Joseph Bowser Posthumous Recognition Resolution of 2024".
110	
111	Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors Joseph Bowser for his years of
112	dedication to his community, family, and friends where he was a leader and pillar of the
113	community.
114	
115 116	Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.
110	the District of Columbia Register.