



## MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

# RESOLUTION

## HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM C. "BILL" BROOKS

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**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks was a committed advocate for civil rights throughout his entire life, and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks spent a lifetime of service to his country and community which began with his career as an officer in the United States Air Force, from which he retired in 1972, and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks worked for the federal Office of Management and Budget as an operations research analyst during the presidential administration of Richard M. Nixon, and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks worked at General Motors in the 1970s and 1990s, and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks served as undersecretary for Labor under President George H.W. Bush from 1989 until 1991, and

**Whereas,** in the 1990s, when William C. "Bill" Brooks rejoined General Motors as vice president of corporate affairs, he also served as chairman of the General Motors Foundation and chairman of the board and president of Motor Enterprises, Inc., a small business investment subsidiary of General Motors, and

**Whereas,** President William J. Clinton appointed William C. "Bill" Brooks to serve on the Social Security Advisory Board from 1995 to 1998, and

**Whereas,** during his tenure at General Motors, William C. "Bill" Brooks led the fight to secure equitable access to contracts for small businesses owned by African-American entrepreneurs, and

**Whereas,** in addition to years of corporate and government service and leadership, William C. "Bill" Brooks spent countless hours creating and nurturing many civic organizations including being a founding member of the National Black MBA Association's Detroit chapter, founding chairman of the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce, and served as a member of the boards of the Michigan Opera Theatre and the Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks was a fierce advocate for education particularly for the youth of Detroit, demonstrated by his service on the board of the Detroit Public Schools as a member and chair; and

**Whereas,** William C. "Bill" Brooks leaves a legacy of striving for equity, equality and success for Detroit, Michigan and the United States,

**Therefore, Now Be It Resolved,** that the Michigan Civil Rights Commission commemorates William C. "Bill" Brooks' life and contributions to the state and beyond, and

**Further, Be It Resolved,** the Commission recognizes William C. "Bill" Brooks' legacy of service to business, government and charitable organizations across America, and

**Be It Further Resolved,** that the Commission expresses its deepest condolences to his wife of 62 years, Elizabeth; his three children, William C. Brooks, Jr., Patricia Elizabeth Brooks and Pamela (Peter) Tully; his eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and

**Finally, Be It Resolved** on this 8th Day of October 2018, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission honors and recognizes, lauds and applauds the legacy of service William C. "Bill" Brooks has left for all Michiganders to follow.

**MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION**

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