

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 393

Commemorating the life of Gwendolyn Brooks of Chicago, Illinois.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 15 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. FITZGERALD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the life of Gwendolyn Brooks of Chicago,
Illinois.

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was born in Topeka, Kansas, on June 7, 1917, and moved one month thereafter to the South Side of Chicago;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was educated in the Chicago public school system, graduating from Englewood High School in 1934;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was the author of over twenty works of poetry spanning 46 years;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks in 1950 became the first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry with her publication, *Annie Allen*;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was showered with numerous other accolades as a poet and artist, including a lifetime

achievement award from the National Endowment for the Arts;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks has been poet laureate of Illinois since 1968, succeeding the late Carl Sandburg;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks leveraged her prestige as Illinois poet laureate to inspire young writers, establishing the Illinois Poet Laureate Awards in 1969 to encourage elementary and high school students to write; and

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks taught future poets and writers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the City College of New York, Columbia College of Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Elmhurst College, and Chicago State University: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) commemorates the life of Gwendolyn Brooks
3 and celebrates the accomplishments she made not
4 just to the State of Illinois, but to the entire United
5 States of America as a poet and artist; and

6 (2) extends its deepest sympathies to her daughter
7 Nora and son Henry.

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