

Senate Resolution 559

By: Senator Brown of the 26th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Waddell Curtis; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Waddell Curtis, affectionately called Sonny by his family, was born in Selma,
3 Alabama, on October 22, 1935, the oldest of four children of Annabell and Wardell Curtis;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, he graduated from Hughes High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, and received an
6 AA degree in Police Science at California Poly-Tech Institute; and

7 WHEREAS, during his lifetime, he worked for the Matthew Correctional Institute as a
8 counselor in Beacon, New York; the Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers
9 College/CUNY, as a project director; the Urban Development Corporation/Mortgage Loan
10 Corporation as a state field supervisor; the Association for Neighborhood and Housing
11 Development, Inc., as a Project Coordinator/Community Organizer; and the Cincinnati
12 Human Relations Commission as deputy director; and

13 WHEREAS, his interests included gardening, cooking, and a great love of music, with his
14 precious collection of records and CDs which expanded over a period of 50 years, of which
15 he was very proud, and included the great jazz classics of all time; and

16 WHEREAS, he mentored generations to understand the importance and historical
17 significance of music and the role it plays in preserving our culture; and

18 WHEREAS, in love with music, he acted as an occasional deejay using the music from his
19 huge, eclectic collection, and enjoyed making cassette tapes from his collection for his family
20 and friends; and

21 WHEREAS, he had an innate appreciation and talent for interior design using antiques and
22 family memorabilia; and

1 WHEREAS, he also had a gift for telling wonderful stories, especially of living in the City
2 of New York, Woodstock during the late sixties, and the Hamptons, and often referred to his
3 life "as a great adventure"; and

4 WHEREAS, he touched the lives of many people and will be deeply missed by all who had
5 the good fortune to know him, but will never be forgotten; and

6 WHEREAS, Waddell leaves a daughter, Pam, and a granddaughter, Raven, who he
7 absolutely adored, of New York City; two sisters, Mary Curtis Ashong of Snellville, Georgia,
8 and Mittie Curtis Gamble of Cleveland, Ohio; a brother, Larry Curtis of Norfolk, Virginia;
9 and a host of relatives and friends.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
11 honor the life of Waddell Curtis and extend to his family their deepest condolences.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
13 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Waddell Curtis.