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2007 SENATE RESOLUTION 10

February 27, 2008 – Introduced by Senators Taylor, Coggs, Lehman and Hansen. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: commending the public service of U.S. Representative Gwendolynne

2 Sophia Moore. 3 Whereas, Gwendolynne Sophia "Gwen" Moore was born on April 18, 1951, in 4 Racine, Wisconsin; and 5 Whereas, after completion of her primary education, she graduated from 6 Marquette University in Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political 7 science, despite living in poverty for much of her academic career; and 8 Whereas, after graduating, devoting herself to eliminating poverty in 9 Milwaukee's inner city she went to work as an organizer with Volunteers in Service 10 to America; and 11 Whereas, an active interest in community led her to help establish the Cream 12 City Community Development Credit Union in Milwaukee, a group dedicated to 13 financing projects that created jobs, cultivated local businesses, and contributed to 14 the development in Milwaukee's inner city; and

 $\mathbf{2}$

Whereas, her interests included parity in treatment for all Wisconsin residents, and she fought tirelessly to overcome systemic discrimination by instituting a review of the Milwaukee Police Department for ignoring citizen complaints in Milwaukee's inner city; and

Whereas, seeking to bring about meaningful changes to the circumstances of members of her surrounding area, backed by a wave of community support, she was elected to the Wisconsin state assembly in 1989 to represent Wisconsin's 18th Assembly District; and

Whereas, in 1993, following two terms in the Wisconsin state assembly, she won an unprecedented election to the Wisconsin state senate, serving two and a half terms as Wisconsin's first African–American woman to be a state senator; and

Whereas, in 2004, she was elected to represent Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, becoming the first African–American person and second woman to represent Wisconsin in Congress; and

Whereas, throughout her career as a legislator, she has labored on behalf of women, minorities, small businesses, and the economically disadvantaged to provide opportunities for growth; and

Whereas, the adoption of this senate resolution is supported not only by the senate, but also by members of the assembly, including specifically Representatives Sheridan, Schneider, Young, Grigsby, Sinicki, Mason, Fields, Benedict, Turner, Kessler, and Hintz; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, That the senate of the state of Wisconsin honors the contributions and public service of U.S. Representative Gwendolynne Sophia "Gwen" Moore.