

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF ORA HERBERT "HERB" ELLIS SR.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 6, 2014

WHEREAS, Former County Commissioner O. Herbert Ellis Sr. served Washtenaw County loyally for 22 years; and

WHEREAS, O. Herbert Ellis Sr. was born and raised in Chandler, OK, and completed a Bachelor degree from Langston University in 1940; and

WHEREAS, in 1942 he moved to Ann Arbor, MI, and later enrolled in the University of Michigan where he obtained a Master's degree in Education and a Master's degree in Public Health; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Michigan, he became involved in the community by serving on the committee to establish Washtenaw County Community Mental Health Center, the committee to study the new St. Joseph Hospital location and the committee to establish Washtenaw County Community College; and

WHEREAS, in 1958 former mayor Cecil Creal appointed him to the County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, in 1968 O. Herbert Ellis Sr. was the first black man to be elected to the County Board of Commissioners, representing Ann Arbor until 1982; and

WHEREAS, in 1971 he was the first black man to be elected Chair of The Board; and

WHEREAS, O. Herbert Ellis Sr. retired from politics in 1982 after tirelessly and faithfully serving the county of Washtenaw

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby honors and expresses its sincere appreciation to O. Herbert Ellis Sr. for a life's work which has greatly improved the Ann Arbor Schools, the City of Ann Arbor, and Washtenaw County.

Yousef Rabhi- District 8
Washtenaw County Commissioner
Chair of the Board