

# JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Resolution in Commemoration of Former Jefferson County Board of Education Chairman Laken Cosby, Jr.

WHEREAS, Laken Cosby, Jr., was born in Athens, Alabama, on December 6, 1930, and departed from this life on June 11, 2014, at the age of 83. He was the eldest son of 14 children born to Laken and Maude Cosby and is survived by his loving family, including Barbara, his devoted wife of 30 years, and his 9 children, 6 grandchildren, and 12 siblings;

WHEREAS, Cosby was a visionary, community activist, veteran of the U.S. Air Force, business owner, church leader, crusader for social justice, Notable Kentucky African American, Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Hall of Famer, and lifelong supporter of equal opportunity for—and equal access to—quality education for **all** children;

WHEREAS, Cosby was appointed to the Jefferson County Board of Education in 1985 to represent District 1 and was the first of only two African Americans to serve as chairperson of the Board of Education, becoming chair for the first time in 1988 and again in 1992;

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Board of Education, Cosby fought for school integration and for compliance with the district's busing plan, sought equity of resource allocations to all schools, and encouraged business opportunities for minority suppliers, vendors, and contractors;

WHEREAS, he continued his commitment to education through his service on the Kentucky Board of Education from 1994 until 2002;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Education honors the memory and commemorates the service of Laken Cosby, Jr., for his tireless support and lifelong advocacy for civil rights in education.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Board of Education of Jefferson County, Kentucky, to be affixed the 23rd day of June 2014. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and adoption.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Assistant Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted at the June 23, 2014, meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education, at which a quorum was present and voted.

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Diane Porter  
Chairwoman

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Donna M. Hargens, Ed.D.  
Superintendent/Secretary