

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

**S.R. No. 67**

(SENATE AUTHORS: CHAMPION)

DATE  
02/12/2024

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Introduction  
Referred to Rules and Administration

OFFICIAL STATUS

A Senate resolution

honoring the life of Brenda Hunter.

**WHEREAS**, Brenda Hunter was a wife, mother, sister, aunt, friend, and a member of the Minnesota community since 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda was a member of the Grammy-nominated and Stellar Awards-winning Excelsior Choral Ensemble, established in 1978, where she served as choir president for the entirety of her membership. Excelsior Chorale Ensemble, affectionately known as Excelsior, was committed to walking alongside our community, specifically our youth, in discovering, connecting, and expanding the knowledge, practice, and power of the African tradition of gospel music that is widely cherished across the African Diaspora. Excelsior has entertained and educated thousands of Minnesotans and people across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda continued her love for gospel music as a member of the Dove and Stellar Award-nominated group Darnell Davis & The Remnant; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda collaborated with numerous organizations, including the Minnesota State Baptist Convention, Minneapolis Public Schools, and Hennepin County Juvenile Detention Center, and held the position of Membership Director and Family Coordination Hospitality House Youth Direction in North Minneapolis where she is affectionately known as Miss Brenda; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda was a beacon of love, hope, inspiration, and culture for her role in educating, inspiring, and promoting the importance of preserving and celebrating African traditions, values, and narratives through gospel music and was committed to educating and inspiring the next generation; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda passed away on November 20, 2023, and leaves behind her husband, Reverend Johnny Hunter; her children, RayJahn and De'Jahn; her mother, siblings, nieces, nephews,

great-nieces, and great-nephews; and numerous extended family, godchildren, community children, and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, Brenda was a remarkable singer and youth and community leader, whose legacy of promoting the African tradition through gospel music continues to inspire and educate generations; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it honors the memory of Brenda Hunter and recognizes Friday, December 1, 2023, as Brenda Yates Hunter Day.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to the family of Brenda Hunter.

Tom Bottern  
Secretary of the Senate

Kari Dziedzic  
Chair, Senate Committee on  
Rules and Administration

Bobby Joe Champion  
State Senator, District 59