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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Bambade Shakoor-Abdullah, who passed away on December 8, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah was born Lolita Flynn in Chicago to Myrtle and Roland Flynn; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah was a lifelong learner and educator; she attended Wilson Jr. College and was instrumental in getting the name changed to Kennedy-King College; she obtained her master's degree in psychology from Chicago State University and went on to become the first African American to receive her Ph.D. in Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1992; she worked as an assistant professor at Prairie State College, Olive Harvey College, East-West University, and Kennedy-King College; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah converted to Islam by the age of 17 and was a devout Muslim and positive example of staying committed to faith and spirituality; she was appointed by Governor Pat Quinn to the Muslim American Advisory Council and chosen for the 2017 Muslim Women Alliance Inspiring Woman Award; and

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1 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah's life work focused on
2 mental health treatment, violence prevention, education, and
3 youth empowerment; she was the founder and executive director
4 of the Leadership Development Institute, an organization
5 focused on youth development, education, and resilience; she
6 served as a chaplain with Muslim Services for Women and as a
7 mentor for Class X felons in the Cook County Department of
8 Corrections; she was a violence prevention instructor for
9 Chicago Public Schools and a counselor and coordinator for the
10 Victim Services Program with the Community Mental Health
11 Council of Chicago; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah was instrumental in the
13 Illinois Senate's adoption of a 2017 resolution for a
14 faith-based public health approach to violence prevention and
15 the passage of Public Act 99-435, allowing the development of
16 Regional Juvenile Justice Councils in the State of Illinois;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah's most recent work was in the
19 area of countering targeted violence; she was a graduate of the
20 F.B.I. Citizen's Academy, a member of the Chicago Countering
21 Violent Extremism planning committee with the U.S. Department
22 of Homeland Security, and an FBI Team Member in developing the
23 'Targeted Violence Intervention Best Practices Summit Report'
24 in Angered, Sweden in 2015; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah married Kasib Abdullah in
2 1993 in South Holland and they were happily married for 24
3 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah was preceded in death by her
5 parents, Myrtle and Roland Flynn; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Shakoor-Abdullah is survived by her sons,
7 Damani Shakoor, Idris Shakoor, and Salahuddin Abdullah; her
8 daughter-in-law, Nia Abdullah; her sons-in-law, Kasib D.
9 Abdullah and Tariq Abdullah; her grandson, Djimon Shakoor; her
10 granddaughter, Kaliya Rogers; her siblings, Julia Ross, Roland
11 Flynn, Melvin Flynn, Guillerroe Flynn, Jamila Rashid, Juan
12 Flynn, Rolanda Flynn, and Antonia Flynn; the father of her
13 first two sons, Olu Shakoor; and many nieces and nephews;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
17 Dr. Bambade Shakoor-Abdullah, and extend our sincere
18 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
19 her; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Dr. ShakoorAbdullah as an expression

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1 of our deepest sympathy.