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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 Eddie L. Brown Sr., who passed away on June 26, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Eddie Brown Sr. was born in Helena, Arkansas to George and Annie Brown on September 8, 1928; he was the second of five children; he committed to his faith at an early age and worshiped at New Life Baptist Church in Helena, Arkansas; born during the Great Depression, he helped to provide for his family and still found time for his passions of playing football, fishing, dancing, singing, and especially driving; at the age of 16, he joined the United States Army, where he served as a Medical Technician at Brooks General Hospital at Fort Sam Houston in Texas; in 1948, he transferred to Fort Benning in Georgia, where he completed psychiatric training to further assist in serving his fellow soldiers; he received an honorable discharge and relocated to Chicago; he met his wife, Doris L. Watkins in 1955; and

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WHEREAS, Eddie Brown Sr. began working in the cafeteria at Walgreens Drug Store in 1954; he then became a mail carrier for the United States Post Office; after leaving his job with the post office, he worked as a jet fuel dispenser for the United States Army at O'Hare Airport; next, he took a position with

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1 the City of Chicago Streets and Sanitation Department; he then
2 followed his passion and joined Cordin Motor Freight Company as
3 a driver, in partnership with Bob Driscoll; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1968, Eddie Brown Sr. and his wife became the
5 first African American family to join St. Catherine of Siena
6 Parish in Oak Park; for the past 50 years, he faithfully
7 attended Sunday worship, sang in the gospel choir, and
8 volunteered for many social and fundraising events; and

9 WHEREAS, Eddie Brown Sr. had a life full of family events,
10 community advocacy, and traveling with his wife and children;
11 he enjoyed cooking, telling family stories, and working on his
12 home; and

13 WHEREAS, Eddie Brown Sr. was preceded in death by his
14 parents; his siblings, Velma, Evelyn, George-Ella, and James;
15 and his granddaughter, Natasha Latrice; and

16 WHEREAS, Eddie Brown Sr. is survived by his wife of 62
17 years, Doris; his children, Derrick, Timothy, Orvelle
18 (Valencia), Jarrie, Monica (Harold), and Marla (fiance
19 Anthony); his daughter-in-law, Felicia; his grandchildren,
20 Tashona, Demetrius, Jannen, Jessica, Lomont, Ricardo, Paris,
21 Kenyatta, Exa, Shareena, Arvelle (AJ), Xaviea, Jarrie Marie,
22 Kye, Khodee, Marion III "Tre", Marcus, Harold, Mikayla, Myia,

1 and Dion Jr.; his five great-grandchildren; his four
2 great-great-grandchildren; his brothers-in-law; his
3 sisters-in-law; his many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and his
4 adopted grandchildren; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
7 Eddie L. Brown Sr. and extend our sincere condolences to his
8 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Eddie Brown Sr. as an expression of
12 our deepest sympathy.