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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of 3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Jaylon 4 McKenzie of Belleville, who passed away on May 5, 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Jaylon McKenzie was born to Sukeena and Otis 6 Gunner on November 29, 2004; he attended Central Junior High in 7 Belleville during the fall 2018 term; he transferred to 8 Mason-Clark Middle School in East St. Louis for the spring; and

WHEREAS, Jaylon McKenzie had wanted to play football since he was three-years-old; his talent was on the radar of major college programs, including the University of Illinois and the University of Missouri; he had already received scholarship offers; in October 2018, Sports Illustrated featured him as one of "six teens who will rule the future of sports"; he played basketball and participated in track and field, but football was his favorite; he followed a daily routine that included school, practice, and homework; and

WHEREAS, Jaylon McKenzie was dedicated to being the best athlete and student he could be; he was a silent leader; he did not say much; he led; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

- 1 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 2 we mourn the passing of Jaylon McKenzie and extend our sincere
- 3 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
- 4 him; and be it further
- 5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 6 presented to the family of Jaylon McKenzie as an expression of
- 7 our deepest sympathy.