



SR0731

LRB101 14757 MST 63715 r

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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 Annette Butler, who passed away on September 30, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Annette Butler was born in Chicago to Ozell and Earl Walter Smith on September 14, 1938; she attended St. Joseph Grammar School and sang with the choir at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church; she graduated from Lucy Flower High School and, along with some of her siblings, formed the notable singing group, The Crusaders; she attended Woodrow Wilson Jr. College (Kennedy-King College), where she studied music; she married Jerry Butler, a fellow member of The Crusaders, on June 21, 1959; and

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WHEREAS, While performing in various venues across the city, Annette Butler spent time working as a nurse's aide for Presbyterian St. Luke Hospital; and

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WHEREAS, As her husband's career as a solo recording artist and songwriter flourished, Annette Butler became involved with several charitable causes; she joined The Better Halves, a club comprised of many famous artists and wives of celebrities who worked together to raise money for charities across Chicago; and

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1           WHEREAS, Annette Butler always put family first; she opened  
2 her home to countless family members and friends; she was a  
3 true artist with many talents and enjoyed painting,  
4 calligraphy, designing clothes, and even creating pieces of art  
5 from pistachio shells; she had a wonderful sarcastic sense of  
6 humor; she was a friend to all, humble, and full of love; she  
7 had a strong faith and found great peace and comfort in  
8 Buddhism; and

9           WHEREAS, Annette Butler was preceded in death by her  
10 parents; her sister, Mable; and her brother, Benny; and

11           WHEREAS, Annette Butler is survived by her husband of 60  
12 years, Jerry; her sons, Randall (Raeshannon) and Anthony; her  
13 grandchildren, Tykeisha, Malik, and Jeriel; her  
14 great-grandchild, Tristan; her brother, Earl; her sister,  
15 Susan; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family,  
16 and friends; therefore, be it

17           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
19 Annette Butler and extend our sincere condolences to her  
20 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it  
21 further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Annette Butler as an expression of  
3 our deepest sympathy.