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LRB103 39716 ECR 70163 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 Cleofus "Bear" Hopkins Sr., who passed away on February 11, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins was born to Johnnie B. Hopkins and Ruthie Mae Downs in Blytheville, Arkansas on August 8, 1953; he attended Donahue Elementary and graduated from Oakenwald South Elementary School in 1967 and from Paul Laurence Dunbar Vocational High School in 1971; he married Desmonia Harris on August 31, 1979; and

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WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins worked as a stationary engineer and then manager at Freeport McMoran, retiring on July 1, 2009 after 22 years of service; and

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WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins committed to his faith at an early age and was ordained as a deacon at All Things Are Possible Missionary Baptist Church on August 21, 2005; and

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WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins had a passion for old school cars and motorcycles and liked to spend time with the Low End Riders; he loved to maintain and tinker with his own vehicles and could fix anything, earning the nickname Mr. Gadget; he enjoyed watching drag racing, western movies, cartoons, and

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1 documentaries about animals and listening to music; he was an
2 avid fan of the Chicago White Sox and actively rooted for any
3 team that played against the Chicago Cubs; and

4 WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins led by example and was the glue
5 that held his family together; his family meant everything to
6 him, and he loved spending time with his grandchildren,
7 family, and friends; and

8 WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins was preceded in death by his
9 parents; his brothers, Wille B. Hopkins, Barry "Cheyenne"
10 Hopkins, and Johnny B. Hopkins Jr.; and his sister, Dorothy
11 Jean Hopkins; and

12 WHEREAS, Cleofus Hopkins is survived by his wife; his son,
13 Cleofus Hopkins Jr.; his grandchildren, DeAndre, Kailah, Zoe,
14 and Ryan; his siblings, Johnnie Mae Hopkins, Regina (TJ)
15 Ashford, Larry (Sylvia) Hopkins, and Johnnie Hopkins; his
16 stepmother, Ruby Hopkins; and his extended family, loved ones,
17 and friends; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
20 Cleofus "Bear" Hopkins Sr. and extend our sincere condolences
21 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
22 it further

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