



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Albretta Catherine Harris-Hannon on May 17, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Albretta Catherine Harris-Hannon was born in Alexandria, Louisiana; her parents, Albert Johnson and Mary Hodges Johnson, local merchants, both preceded her in death; she attended South Alexandria Elementary School and Lampton College high school; she was married in 1924 to Calvin C. Harris, who preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Harris-Hannon was employed as a domestic for many years until she took a leap of faith and opened her own business; the motel, "Bretta's Hideaway", was built in 1951 by her Uncle Willie Hodges and opened in 1955; for many years, she provided comfortable living conditions for countless hunters and fishermen; famed singer/entertainer Jackie Wilson visited "Bretta's Hideaway"; she had superb business skills inherited from her parents and involved everyone in the family business; she delegated with the precision of a CEO of a Fortune 500 company; the motel was her passion as well as working as an entrepreneur; she was a pioneer and real renaissance woman and retired in August 1988; and

WHEREAS, Albretta married Louis S. Hannon in 1955; they spent many wonderful years together until his death in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Harris-Hannon had a zest for life and had various interests; she enjoyed vacationing in exotic places like Hawaii and the Caribbean and visiting relatives all over the U.S., including Los Angeles; she was very civic minded and was an active member of the Woodlawn Organization; she fought for social progress and worked with Holy Cross Church to stop

1 the displacement of persons from the Woodlawn community by the
2 University of Chicago; and

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Harris-Hannon was very active and supportive
4 of her two churches; in the early days of Indiana Avenue United
5 Methodist Church (now known as Gorham), where she joined in
6 1934, she assisted with fish fries and spaghetti dinners to
7 help raise funds for the church; she was honored in 2003 by
8 Gorham for being a Senior Member of the church; she became
9 interested in new thought teachings when her cousin brought
10 home a discarded Daily Word and shared the information with
11 her; she had a strong belief in the power of prayer and firmly
12 believed that the family that prayed together stayed together;
13 she was extremely frugal minded and knew the value of a dollar;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The passing of Albretta Catherine Harris-Hannon
16 has been deeply felt by many, especially her sons, Henry and
17 Albert; her daughters, Elective and Melloee; her
18 grandchildren, Mary, Victor, Albert, Jr., Beverly, Calvin,
19 Darryl, Eugenia, Joseph, Stephanie, and Sherri; her
20 great-grandchildren, Rodney, Eric, Sonia, Felicia, Nicole,
21 Christopher, Robert, Brooke, Dawn, Charles IV, Michael, and
22 Stephen; and her many relatives, friends, neighbors, and others
23 whose lives she touched; her daughter, Mary, preceded her in
24 death; therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
26 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
27 mourn the passing of Albretta Catherine Harris-Hannon, and we
28 extend our sincerest condolences to her family, friends, and
29 all who knew and loved her; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
31 presented to the family of Albretta Catherine Harris-Hannon as
32 an expression of our deepest sympathy.