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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Rose Gaston of Zion; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Gaston was the seventh daughter of eleven children; she graduated from Hines County Agricultural High School in Utica, Mississippi and subsequently moved north to Chicago to continue her education; and

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WHEREAS, In 1957, she married Bennie James Gaston (Reverend B.J. Gaston) and Milwaukee, Wisconsin became their home; by the late 1960s, she secured a position with the State of Wisconsin as an assistant to the Social Worker in the Milwaukee Public School System; her position with the Department of Public Instruction required that she make recommendation for families of students who had special needs and required professional help; in some cases, she was expected to make home visits of students who had special problems with truancy; she stayed current with the Department of Public Instruction's laws, policies, procedures, and regulations by attending classes at night, participating in workshops out of state during the weekends, and attending staff meetings during the day; she had many certifications of completion related to Family/Child Psychology and Parental Involvement; she maintained this work pace for sixteen years; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Gaston had many years of Christian experience as an individual and a pastor's wife; she served for 28 years as a treasurer of Mt. Zion Baptist Church Usher Board, and she was a loyal member of Mt. Zion for 34 years; because of her love for helping people, in 1971, she willingly assisted in providing funds for the construction of the church which is currently Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist

1 Church of Zion; and

2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gaston has served in many roles; she was a  
3 woman of pioneer status whose charm and bright smile could  
4 cast sunlight on the faces of the people she embraced; her  
5 monumental status as a wife, advisor, counselor, friend, and  
6 philanthropist stood as a pillar for 34 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gaston's passing will be deeply felt by  
8 many, especially her husband, Reverend B.J. Gaston; her  
9 sisters, Atha Mae Gaston, Alma Hamilton, Sally Ann Kemp,  
10 Velma Paige, and Elma King; her three brothers, John Broome,  
11 Cleveland Broome, and Eugene Broome; and their respective  
12 families; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the death of  
15 Rose Gaston along with all who knew and loved her and extend  
16 our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and  
17 community; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Rose Gaston as an expression of  
20 our deepest sympathy.