



HR0541

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Arlena Bailey, who passed away on September 30, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey was born on February 2, 1917, in Canton, Mississippi; her mother was Angle Smith; and

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WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey received her early education in the Canton public school system; after an early marriage and the birth of her two eldest children, she married McWillie Bailey in 1945; the couple moved to Chicago the same year; and

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WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey accepted Christ at an early age; she was a loyal member of True Light Church Baptist; she was dedicated to her church and attended faithfully until her health prohibited regular attendance; she served with the February Month Club as treasurer for many years, as well as the Mothers' Council; and

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WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey was a homemaker; she also served as a caretaker to many of her grandchildren; and

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WHEREAS, During her over 65 years in Chicago, Arlena Bailey remained an avid voter in every election; she encouraged her

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1 family members and neighbors to exercise their civic rights by
2 participating in the electoral process; throughout her life,
3 she lived in Chicago's 11th, 17th, 7th, 18th, and 21st Wards;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey was preceded in death by her
6 husband, McWillie; her son-in-law, Clifford; her
7 daughter-in-law, Ora; and her brother-in-law, William; and

8 WHEREAS, Arlena Bailey is survived by her children,
9 Clarence Knox (Betty), Dorothy Payne, Willis Bailey (Elaine),
10 Maxine Hicks, Duwain Bailey (Jocelyn), Rev. Jonathan Bailey,
11 Annie Mitchell (Bobby), and Robert Bailey (Annie); her 28
12 grandchildren; her 37 great-grandchildren; her eight
13 great-great-grandchildren; her siblings, Sam Champion, Willie
14 Champion, and Luella Hale; her many cousins, nieces, and
15 nephews; her special cousin, Lena Green; and her many friends;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of
20 Arlena Bailey; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Arlena Bailey as an expression of

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1 our sympathy.