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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are deeply
3 saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Charles Eugene Watson of
4 Chicago, who passed away on November 23, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson was born in Halls, Tennessee,
6 on May 16, 1932, to Joseph Lewis and Mary Ella (nee Roundtree)
7 Watson; he graduated from Lauderdale County High School in
8 Halls and Tennessee State University, where he received a
9 bachelor of science degree and performed post-graduate work; he
10 served in the U.S. Army-Special Services Division and received
11 his doctor of dental surgery degree from Meharry Medical
12 College in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1961; he married Eloys L.
13 Williams, and they had 3 children: Carla, Cheryl, and Charles
14 Jr.; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson relocated to the south side of
16 Chicago to begin his dental practice; he practiced dentistry
17 until 1996, at times the practice was a family affair with his
18 daughters, Cheryl and Carla; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson was very active in social
20 causes, politics, and dental organizations; he participated in
21 downtown lunch counter sit-ins in Nashville, Tennessee, as well
22 as the March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he

1 worked with lawmakers to create legislation to improve patient
2 care and the practice of dentistry, and he took part in
3 campaigns for people such as State Comptroller Roland Burris,
4 State Senator Kwame Raoul, and President Barack Obama; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson was active with the Lincoln
6 Dental Society (President), the Kenwood Hyde Park Dental
7 Society (President), The Progressive Club, the Chicago Dental
8 Society, the Illinois State Dental Society (Legislative
9 Committee), the American Dental Association (State
10 Representative to the American Dental Political Action
11 Committee), and the National Dental Association; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson was devoted to his family and
13 friends; he took them on extended and frequent vacations to 40
14 different states and Canada; he traveled to Europe, Mexico, and
15 the Caribbean; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Watson is survived by his wife of 8
17 years, Sallie; his sisters, Dr. L. Marilyn Watson and Dr.
18 Marian L. Watson; his brother, retired Cook County Deputy
19 Commissioner, Alfred E. Watson (Naomi); his children, Carla D.
20 Watson, Dr. Cheryl D. Watson-Lowry (William A. Lowry Sr.,
21 Esq.), and Charles E. Watson, Jr.; his step-daughter, Anitra
22 Elmore (Darold); his grandchildren, Taylor E. and Joshua E.
23 Mason (Carla), William A., Evan J., and Clarke E. Lowry

1 (Cheryl), Annah and Donovan Elmore (Anitra); his five
2 sisters-in-law; a host of cousins, nieces, and nephews, and his
3 dedicated care-giver, Johkim Jones; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
6 Dr. Charles Watson, and we extend our sincere condolences to
7 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Dr. Charles Watson as an expression
11 of our deepest sympathy.