



SR1889

LRB100 22563 MST 41461 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to
3 learn of the death of Ben Louis Jones; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Jones was born in Saluda, South Carolina to
5 Lula Mae "Bennie" and Emanuel Jones on February 25, 1927; he
6 completed high school and received his license in carpentry; he
7 and his wife, Eva Mae, moved to Cleveland in the early 1950s as
8 part of the Great Migration; and

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10 WHEREAS, In the 1960s, Ben Jones and his brother, Alonzo
11 Smith, founded a construction company in Cleveland, Beneva
12 Construction, which specialized in building and remodeling
13 homes; the company was known for excellence and precision and
14 was a means of providing jobs and apprenticeships for family
moving north; and

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16 WHEREAS, Ben Jones married Reatha on February 26, 1977;
17 they enjoyed traveling together, especially to Israel, where
they were baptized in the Jordan River; and

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19 WHEREAS, Ben Jones always enjoyed meeting new people; he
20 acted in the Karamu Playhouse in Cleveland; his CB handle was
21 "The House Doctor"; he enjoyed fishing from his boat and often
caught enough fish to feed the community; he joined the Union

1 Grove Missionary Baptist Church in the early 1960s and served
2 on the deacon board and in the male chorus; and

3 WHEREAS, Ben Jones is survived by his wife of 41 years,
4 Reatha; his sister, Johnnie Mae Herbert (George); his son,
5 John; his daughter, Patricia (Stephen); his stepson, Solomon
6 (Renee); his granddaughter, Shantai; his nieces, Quinda,
7 Sherri, Bennita (Brian), Thelma, Beverly, and Breanna; his
8 nephew, Reuben; and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces,
9 nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
12 Ben Louis Jones, and extend our sincere condolences to his
13 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Ben Jones as an expression of our
17 deepest sympathy.