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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Leonard Stephen Smith of Hyde Park, who passed away August 5, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Smith was born in Chicago to James Howard Lorenzo Smith Jr. and Mary Annis Toran Smith on June 24, 1947; the grandson of the late Reverend Dr. James Howard Lorenzo Smith Sr., he committed to his faith at an early age; he received his early education in the Chicago Public Schools and attended Bronzeville's Raymond Elementary School and Kozminski Elementary School, graduating from Hyde Park High School; he excelled in math and developed a lifelong appreciation for education, community involvement, and world events; he attended Wilson Junior College, now Kennedy-King College, and then transferred to Chicago State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree; he married Mary Jean Buchanan; they later divorced; in 1986, he met Dinette Johnson, and their relationship lasted until his death; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Smith began his career as a counselor in the psychiatric unit of the Chicago Osteopathic Hospital in 1972, where he served for 27 years; in 1999, he began working at Norridge Nursing Home, where he held the position of CNA until his retirement in 2013; and

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1           WHEREAS, Leonard Smith was a member of the First Baptist  
2 Church of Chicago in Hyde Park, where he volunteered on several  
3 committees; he also volunteered for Youth, Vision and  
4 Integrity, Inc., where he played on and sponsored two  
5 basketball teams in the inaugural YVI Murray Schoolyard  
6 Basketball Classic in Hyde Park; he enjoyed playing chess,  
7 solving crossword puzzles, watching late-night talk shows and  
8 movies, playing the state lottery, and participating in  
9 recreational sports; he believed that no matter what the  
10 circumstances, family always came first; he enjoyed family  
11 gatherings and the camaraderie among his friends; and

12           WHEREAS, Leonard Smith was preceded in death by his  
13 parents; his brothers, Michael Wayne Smith, Frederick Lorenzo  
14 Smith, and James Howard Lorenzo Smith III; and his sister,  
15 Sylvia Smith Washington; and

16           WHEREAS, Leonard Smith is survived by his son, Noel  
17 Johnson; his special friend, Dinette Johnson; his brothers,  
18 Sidney B. (Joyce) Smith and Keith Summers; his nieces, Caroline  
19 (Norris) Smith James, Ayanna (Wayne) Smith Anderson, Aisha  
20 (Ahmed) Smith Madhi, Aliya (Torrey) Smith Brown, Marian Toran  
21 Smith, and Patricia Washington; his nephews, Dean King-Smith,  
22 Derrick Dorsey Whitehead, Dwayne Hutton, and Darryl Hutton; and  
23 his many great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
4 Leonard Stephen Smith and extend our sincere condolences to his  
5 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to the family of Leonard Smith as an expression of  
9 our deepest sympathy.