



HR0047

LRB101 07138 MST 52176 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Essie Lee Bass on the
4 occasion of her 102nd birthday on July 2, 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Essie Bass was born the 8th child to John and
6 Hannah Tyler on July 2, 1917; when she was four years old, her
7 family moved to Chicago, and she found her self in the middle
8 of the Harlem Renaissance, witnessing some of the best African
9 American musicians, writers, artists, and politicians; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1941, Essie Bass began working for a defense
11 plant, contributing to the war effort by helping to build
12 trucks, tanks, guns, and ammunition; after the war, she went to
13 work for a laundry company, where they manufactured tumblers
14 for washers and dryers; she later worked for St. Anthony
15 Hospital and Burger King before retiring in 1975; and

16 WHEREAS, Essie Bass has witnessed 18 American presidents,
17 the 1954 Brown vs Board of Education verdict, the 1955 death of
18 Emmet Till, the 1955 Bus Boycott sparked by Rosa Parks, the
19 leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, the Little
20 Rock Nine, the North Carolina lunch counter sit-in, the 1963
21 March on Washington, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the Vietnam
22 War, the establishment of the Congress of Racial Equality,

1 Organized Freedom Rides, President Kennedy and civil rights
2 legislation, the integration of schools, the Arkansas 9, the
3 Birmingham Church Bombing, Mississippi Burning, Rosewood, the
4 1965 Lyndon B. Johnson voting rights legislation, the Black
5 Panther Party, Shirley Chisholm becoming the first woman to run
6 for President, Jesse Jackson's presidential run, Oprah
7 becoming the first black billionaire, and Barack Obama becoming
8 the first black American president; and

9 WHEREAS, Essie Bass has made Chicago her home for nearly
10 100 years; she has three children and numerous grandchildren
11 and great-grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, Essie Bass still goes to church on the first
13 Sunday of the month to participate in Communion; she enjoys
14 hearing the Voices of Victory sing; she takes life one day at a
15 time and makes the most of every moment; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate Essie Lee Bass on her 102nd birthday on July 2,
19 2019; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to Essie Bass as a symbol of our respect and esteem.