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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 Joan Diane Alsberry; and

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WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry was born in Chicago to Irving and
5 Amanda Steele on October 7, 1947; she attended Parkman
6 Elementary School and was a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church
7 in Chicago; she graduated from Jean Baptiste Point DuSable High
8 School, where she was a member of the Girls Athletic
9 Association and captain of the cheerleader squad; and

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WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry attended community college in
11 Chicago and graduated from the University of Kansas School of
12 Medicine with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy; she
13 was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and

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WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry began working at Mercy Hospital in
15 Chicago as a staff therapist and eventually became the
16 assistant director and clinical coordinator for students; she
17 also worked at Spaulding School and Tradewinds Rehabilitation
18 in Gary, Indiana; she later became the first African American
19 Director of Physical Therapy at Americana Healthcare Center in
20 Oak Lawn; in 1982, she became the Director of Physical Medicine
21 at South Chicago Hospital (Advocate Aurora Trinity); and

1 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry married William Adams; after his
2 passing, she married Vernard Alsberry Jr.; and

3 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry became a clinical instructor and
4 adjunct professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago and
5 an instructor at the Chicago City Junior College for the
6 Physical Therapy Assistance Program; she helped to organize the
7 Support Organization for Minority Physical Therapists (SOMPT)
8 and was a charter member of the American Academy of Physical
9 Therapy (AAPT); and

10 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry co-founded a private practice,
11 Superior Physical Therapy, eventually becoming the sole
12 proprietor; as her business grew, she added other
13 rehabilitation services and changed the name to Superior
14 Therapeutic Services Inc.; and

15 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry became the program director for
16 senior services at the Healthcare Consortium of Illinois; she
17 then joined her husband and founded Kids Health Club.com, a
18 fitness center for youth ages six to 16 years, which they
19 operated for eight years; she also briefly worked as a home
20 health physical therapist for Advocate South Suburban
21 Hospital; and

22 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry received numerous honors during

1 her professional life; in 1997, the Southland Chamber of
2 Commerce named her as its Small Business Person of the Year;
3 the American Academy of Physical Therapy presented her with the
4 Outstanding Leadership Award and the American Physical Therapy
5 Association presented her with the Diversity 2000 Award; she
6 also was named as a Fellow of the American Academy of Physical
7 Therapy; and

8 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry was involved with numerous
9 organizations, including the Village of Hazel Crest Planning
10 and Zoning Commission, the Hazel Crest Senior Citizen
11 Commission, the Bremen Township Regular Democratic
12 Organization, the Chicago State University Occupational
13 Therapy Program, the Illinois Council on Aging, the Illinois
14 Interagency Council on Early Intervention, Age Options, the
15 Illinois Physical Therapy Association, the American Academy of
16 Physical Therapy, the Illinois Council of Case Coordinators
17 Units, and the Governors State University Physical Therapy
18 Program; and

19 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry was a member of Hillcrest Baptist
20 Church in Country Club Hills; and

21 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry was preceded in death by her first
22 husband, William; her parents; her siblings, Ronald and
23 Barbara; her stepmother, Ora McClinton; her stepfather,

1 Rudolph White; and her stepbrother, Lamar; and

2 WHEREAS, Diane Alsberry is survived by her husband of over
3 21 years, Village of Hazel Crest Mayor Vernard Alsberry Jr.;
4 her sons, Perry Curtis Jr., William Sean Adams, Vernard (Linah)
5 Alsberry III, and John Cory Medlock; her daughters, Cindy
6 Denise Vinson, Catherine Curtis, Tiffany Diane Curtis, Vernica
7 (Tyrone) Alsberry-Griffin, and Moneecia (O'Shane)
8 Alsberry-Wilmoth; her brothers, Irving "Willie" (Peaches)
9 Steele Jr., Rudolph (Gregory Colombe) White, and Keith
10 McClinton; her sisters, Doretta (Jimmy) Smith and Venessa
11 (Tommy) Bodey; her nieces, Debra Brown and Metrneaa Gibson; her
12 nephews, Anthony and Jonathan Steele; her cousins, Roslyn,
13 Rosesharon, and Cleophus (Red) Clarke and Preston (Dojie)
14 Barksdale; her brothers-in-law and sisters-in law, Charles
15 (Lyndette) Alsberry, Keith (Mary), Kyle (Rosa), Melvin (Sonya)
16 Alsberry, and Lorraine McCoy; 15 grandchildren; her A-Team
17 family; and a host of extended family, close longtime friends,
18 and professional colleagues; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
21 Joan Diane Alsberry and extend our sincere condolences to her
22 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
23 further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Diane Alsberry as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy.