



HR0441

LRB102 19959 LAW 28740 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Christa A. Hamilton on  
4 her election as president and CEO of UCAN; and

5           WHEREAS, UCAN was founded as a Civil War orphanage 152  
6 years ago and now serves more than 21,000 children, youths,  
7 and families around Chicago; during the COVID-19 pandemic, the  
8 organization has been a critical provider of essential  
9 services since March 2020; and

10           WHEREAS, Christa Hamilton is a native Chicagoan and was  
11 born in the Englewood community; she is a first-generation  
12 college graduate, earning her Bachelor of Science in Business  
13 Administration from Florida A&M University and her MBA from  
14 National Louis University; and

15           WHEREAS, Christa Hamilton has devoted her career to  
16 improving the lives of others in resilient communities and  
17 centering equity in all aspects; prior to her appointment, she  
18 worked in both corporate and store operations at Walgreens for  
19 six years, as a consultant for the Department of Labor for two  
20 years, and as the director of Workforce Development at the  
21 Centers for New Horizons for three years before succeeding the  
22 founder as executive director and CEO in 2014; while there,

1 she distinguished herself as a turnaround leader who nearly  
2 doubled the organization's budget to \$17 million while  
3 overseeing more than 300 full-time and part-time staff in  
4 programs across 15 locations throughout Chicago; and

5 WHEREAS, Christa Hamilton is a community and civic leader;  
6 she serves on the boards for Instituto del Progreso Latino and  
7 the Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition; she is a fellow of  
8 Leadership Greater Chicago, a member of the Social Services  
9 Advisory Council with the Illinois Department of Human  
10 Services, and a member of the University of Chicago Advisory  
11 Council; and

12 WHEREAS, Christa Hamilton will be both the first African  
13 American and the first woman to lead UCAN; she will succeed  
14 Interim President and CEO Thomas Vanden Berk on September 13,  
15 2021; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
17 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
18 we congratulate Christa A. Hamilton on her election as  
19 president and CEO of UCAN, and we wish her the best in her new  
20 role; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
22 presented to Christa Hamilton as an expression of our esteem

1 and respect.