



HR0604

LRB102 24027 MST 33239 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Sister
4 Edna McNelty, a resident of Maywood for over 60 years, on
5 December 22, 2021; and

6 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty was born on July 29, 1929 in
7 Summit, Mississippi, the first of 12 children born to Warnella
8 and Peter Huber Crossley; and

9 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty met Pastor H. McNelty at the
10 Chicago Baptist Institute of Chicago, and they later married
11 and had one son, Michael McNelty; and

12 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty, alongside her late husband,
13 dedicated her life to the church and the education of children
14 during her tenure as the First Lady of the First Baptist Church
15 in Melrose Park and the Dean of Education of the H. McNelty
16 School; and

17 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty also completed 22 years of
18 service, including with the Department of Health and Human
19 Services-Social Security Administration; and

20 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty worked faithfully and

1 tirelessly to serve her church and community; she was the
2 First Lady of the First Baptist Church of Melrose Park for 42
3 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Sis Edna McNelty and her husband worked hard to
5 ensure the success of their church and school; in 1978, an
6 addition to the church was completed, and in 1985, they
7 founded the H. McNelty pre-school; furthermore in 1990, they
8 oversaw the construction of an auditorium, educational labs,
9 and an atrium garden; and

10 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty later joined the United Baptist
11 Church in Chicago, where she continued to serve the poor; and

12 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty was supportive of her parents,
13 siblings, other relatives, church members, and friends; and

14 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty lived a life of love and
15 dedication to her family, friends, and community; she leaves
16 behind a legacy of faith and generosity and an abundance of
17 love; and

18 WHEREAS, Sis. Edna McNelty leaves to cherish her memory
19 her son, Michael (Mary); her granddaughter, Tawanda; her
20 sisters, Joyce McSpadden, Clara Crossley, and Theresa
21 Crossley; her sister-in-law, Inez Crossley; her brother,

1 Lonnie Melvin Crossley; her brother-in-law, Willie Frank
2 Moore; her goddaughters, Anita Perkins-Tate and Benita
3 Edwards; her godsons, Cleo and Charlie McSpadden and Shaun
4 Mayberry; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces and
5 nephews, other relatives, and friends; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we mourn the passing of Sister Edna McNelty and extend our
9 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
10 and loved her; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Sis. Edna McNelty as an expression
13 of our deepest sympathy.