



SR0124

LRB102 17505 LAW 23065 r

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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 Essie Mae "Dear" Clear, who passed away on February 13, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Essie Clear was born in Vance, Mississippi to Polly Ann and Merritt Davis on June 1, 1932; she received her education from the Mississippi public school system; she married James L. Miller Sr. in 1947, and he preceded her in death; together, they had five children, four boys and one girl; she later moved to Chicago and married William Clear, and he preceded her in death; together, they had six children, two boys and four girls, and had one stepson; and

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WHEREAS, Essie Clear worked for DeMet's Turtle Candy and was an entrepreneur; she owned a cleaning service and was also a great beautician known for pressing hair; and

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WHEREAS, Essie Clear committed to her faith at the age of 11; she was a member at the Galilee MBC and the Mt. Zion MBC in Tutwiler, Mississippi, where she was a member of the Usher Board; after moving to Chicago, she joined the Rising Sun MBC; she later transferred her membership to the Inspirational M.B. Church, where she served on the Usher Board; she returned to the Rising Sun MBC under the leadership of her son, Rev.

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1 Matthew L. Miller, where she served as an usher and on the
2 Mother's Board; she attended Bible class, every church outing,
3 and Sunday school every week; she diligently worked on her
4 bible class and Sunday school assignments; she shared her
5 wisdom with the younger church members and her family; and

6 WHEREAS, Essie Clear volunteered at Thomas A. Hendrick
7 School, where she was an active member of the PTA and the
8 Community Advisory Board; she loved attending her sons' and
9 grandsons' high school and college football games, where she
10 was the loudest cheerleader in the stands; she enjoyed
11 traveling and visited cities throughout Germany, France, Great
12 Britain, and the U.S.; and

13 WHEREAS, Essie Clear was known for being kind and
14 compassionate; she instilled in her children the importance of
15 education; her greatest joy was being a mother to her children
16 and many other children in the community; she will be missed;
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18 WHEREAS, Essie Clear was preceded in death by her
19 siblings, Clara, Leon, Corinthia, Lazarus, Glotha, David,
20 Josephine, and Albert; her daughter, Stephanie Clear; and two
21 great-grandchildren; and

22 WHEREAS, Essie Clear is survived by her children, Dr.

1 James Miller (Olivia), Rev. Johnny L. Miller (Gynetta), Rev.
2 Leon Miller (Patricia), Rev. Matthew L. Miller (Pam), Katie
3 Miller, Donald Mattox (Tanya), Vivian Clear, Col. Samuel
4 Clear, Michelle Williams (Jerry), LCDR William Clear (Regina),
5 and Marcise Clear; 35 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren;
6 one great-great-grandson; her brother, Davis William; and a
7 host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; therefore, be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Essie Mae "Dear" Clear and extend our sincere condolences to
12 her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Essie Clear as an expression of our
16 deepest sympathy.