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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Angela Jackson was born in Greenville, Mississippi and was raised on Chicago's South Side before embarking on an academic career at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Angela Jackson has distinguished herself as an award-winning poet, novelist, and playwright; she has authored three chapbooks, four volumes of poetry, and several stage plays; and

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WHEREAS, Angela Jackson's writing has been honored with numerous awards, including the Carl Sandburg Award, the Chicago Sun-Times/Friends of Literature Book of the Year Award, the John Gardner Prize, and the American Book Award; in addition, she has been nominated for numerous other awards, including the Pulitzer Prize; and

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WHEREAS, Angela Jackson was a 20-year member of the Organization of Black American Culture (OBAC) Writers' Workshop and succeeded the late Hoyt W. Fuller as its chair; and

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WHEREAS, Angela Jackson's poetry and fiction have been published in many journals and anthologies, including

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1 Triquarterly, First World, NOMMO, Chicago Review, Essence, and
2 The Best of the Pushcart Prizes, among others; and

3 WHEREAS, Angela Jackson has traveled throughout Illinois
4 to teach students of the importance, power, and
5 self-empowerment of poetry; and

6 WHEREAS, Angela Jackson has, in being named Poet Laureate
7 of Illinois, followed in the footsteps of Howard Austin, Carl
8 Sandburg, Kevin Stein, and Gwendolyn Brooks, whose life she
9 chronicled in her biography A Surprised Queenhood in the New
10 Black Sun: The Life and Legacy of Gwendolyn Brooks; therefore,
11 be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare November
14 25, 2021 as Angela Jackson Day and support her goal of
15 awakening in people a lifelong passion for poetry; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to Angela Jackson, Poet Laureate of Illinois, as a
19 symbol of our respect and esteem.