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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened 3 to learn of the death of Fred Louis Miller Jr. of Oswego, who 4 passed away on September 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Fred Miller was born in Decatur to Fred Louis Miller Sr. and Mildred Conerly on January 28, 1946; he was baptized at New Salem Baptist Church in Decatur, and as a teen directed the youth choir and participated in many other activities; he graduated from Douglas MacArthur High School in 1965, where he was class vice president as a junior and was involved with the cadet band, the concert band, the concert choir, the all-state music festival, the German club, football, baseball, and wrestling; and

WHEREAS, Fred Miller enlisted in the U.S. Marines after graduating high school; his last station was the Moffett Naval Air Station near San Francisco; he married Gwendolyn Thomas on August 6, 1977; he received a Bachelor of Music Education from Millikin University in 1973 and earned a Master of Science in Music Ed-Choral at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign; and

WHEREAS, Fred Miller joined Valley View Community Unit School District 365 in Oswego in August of 1980 as their music

- 1 teacher; he retired in June of 2011; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Fred Miller and his family joined St. John AME
- 3 Church in Aurora, where they served as Undershepards for the
- 4 couples ministry, sang in the choir, and participated in other
- 5 ministries; he also served on the trustee board; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Fred Miller was a committed member of Alpha Phi 7 Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for 48 years; he was initiated into 8 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. on May 1, 1973 under chapter 9 Theta Omicron (Milliken University); he was a charter member 10 of Theta Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity since 11 May 4, 1973 and a life member since June 1, 1982; he served as president of the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha 12 13 Fraternity, Inc. from 1988 to 1990 and was the longest-serving 14 brother as the Area 3 Director; he served on almost every 15 committee with the Mu Mu Lambda chapter, including education and as chair of the Beautillion Committee; he was an amazing 16 17 singer and led the singing of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Hymn at the chapter, district, and regional levels; he also 18 served as delegate for the Mu Mu Lambda chapter numerous 19 20 times; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Fred Miller was an avid supporter of the Quad 22 County Urban League, where he was involved with the Teaching 23 Skills That Matter program; he was an active member of

- 1 Keystone Lodge #15, a Prince Hall Affiliate, for approximately
- 2 20 years, where he served a term as secretary; he was also a
- 3 member of the Marquette-Joliet Consistory; and
- WHEREAS, Fred Miller is survived by his wife of 44 years,
- 5 Gwen; his son, Nick (Kenyetta); his grandson, Nicholas; his
- 6 brother, Lynn; his sisters, Rev. Dana Miller and Susa (Steve)
- 7 Miller-Smith; and numerous other relatives and friends;
- 8 therefore, be 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 Fred Louis Miller Jr. and extend our sincere condolences to
- 12 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
- 13 further
- 14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- presented to the family of Fred Miller as an expression of our
- deepest sympathy.