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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 Florida Hayden, who passed away on July 4, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Florida Hayden was born to Climmie Sanders Sr. and Malissa Page-Sanders in Bolton, Mississippi on March 14, 1934; she attended St. Thomas School for her primary education and graduated from Campbell College High School in Jackson, Mississippi; she received her college degree from Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1956; she married Robert Alexander Hayden Jr. at Second Baptist Church in Maywood in 1960, and they had two children, Robert A. "Bobby" Hayden III and Gina L. Hayden; and

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WHEREAS, Florida Hayden began her career as a teacher at Washington Elementary School in Maywood in 1963; she taught third grade for over 25 years, providing a strong base for her students to learn, mature, and become good citizens; she was known as a strong disciplinarian with a loving and good heart, and she treated her students as if they were her own children; she spent her remaining five or six years in education in the upper grades, even spending time as a student coordinator; and

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WHEREAS, Florida Hayden committed to her faith at a young

1 age; she was baptized at Saint Thomas Missionary Baptist
2 Church; after moving from Mississippi to Illinois, she joined
3 the Second Baptist Church in Maywood in 1958; she faithfully
4 served the church, including offering travel and support to
5 the Young People's Choir; she was also a member of the Women's
6 Day Committee, where she served as both a co-chairman and
7 chairman over the years; and

8 WHEREAS, Florida Hayden's pastimes included maintaining
9 her lawn and flowers and keeping a well-manicured look to her
10 home; she enjoyed former students stopping by her home for
11 conversation and to reminisce; she will be remembered for her
12 deep faith, her love for molding minds, and the wisdom she
13 offered to share; and

14 WHEREAS, Florida Hayden was preceded in death by her
15 parents; her brothers, Walter Albert "Jack", David, and
16 Climmie Jr.; and her sister, Florence Funchess; and

17 WHEREAS, Florida Hayden is survived by her husband,
18 Robert; her son, Bobby; her daughter, Gina; her grandson,
19 Justin (Heather); her great-grandson, Landon; a host of
20 nieces, nephews, and cousins; and many students; therefore, be
21 it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
2 Florida Hayden and extend our sincere condolences to her
3 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Florida Hayden as an expression of
7 our deepest sympathy.