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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of 3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Kenyetta 4 Javon "Ken" Barlow Sr., who passed away on March 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Ken Barlow was born in Melrose Park to Richard and Patricia Barlow on August 31, 1977; he grew up in Bellwood and attended St. Domitilla Grammar School; he had a special love for football that began at the age of two, and he started playing for the Memorial Park Spartans at the age of seven; he received football scholarships to St. Joseph High School and Southern Illinois University Carbondale; and

WHEREAS, Ken Barlow had a passion for motorcycles, old school cars, and trucks; he decided to pursue his childhood dream of becoming a truck driver; he received his CDL from the JB Hunt Truck Driving School and opened KB Trucking and K3R Trucking; he also partnered in several businesses, including Big Shot Vape and Tobacco in Hillside; and

WHEREAS, Ken Barlow's love for football continued throughout his life; he served as a coach for the Memorial Park Spartans and the Hillside Hurricanes and was most proud of being able to coach all three of his sons; and

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WHEREAS, Ken Barlow lived his life unapologetically and

- 2 never met a stranger; he had a smile that would light up a room
- 3 and was generally the life of the party; he was loving,
- devoted, and strong, and he was a traveler and a protector; he
- 5 was very intelligent and was affectionately know as "The Great
- 6 Debater"; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Ken Barlow had a genuine love for his family and
- 8 friends; he had an unwavering connection with his parents and
- 9 was a wonderful father; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Ken Barlow was baptized at St. Simeon Catholic
- 11 Church and later became a member of Monroe Baptist Church; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Ken Barlow was preceded in death by his father,
- 13 Richard Barlow; his grandmothers, Carlee Jones and Margaret
- 14 Barlow; his grandfathers, Roosevelt Jones and Cologne Barlow;
- 15 his aunt and godmother, Cercelia Jones; his aunt, Delores
- 16 Liggins; his uncles, Larry Barlow, Larry Jones, Lionel Jones,
- 17 Larry Pennington, LC Barlow, and CL Barlow; his great-aunts,
- Nancy Payne and Eliza Strickland; his great-uncle, William
- 19 "Bill" Payne; his cousins, Rashawn Jones, Michael Moore, and
- 20 Quinton Moore; his godfather, William Davis; and his
- 21 godbrother, John Belcher; and
- 22 WHEREAS, Ken Barlow is survived by his mother, Patricia

friends; therefore, be it

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- 1 Barlow; his sister, LaVenta Barlow; his sons, Gabriel, 2 Kenyetta Jr., and Kenyetta III "Tre"; his bonus children, 3 Aagiyah, Bernard "BJ", Malik, Alarie, Amiya, and Kai; his special nephew, Johntrell Jones; his uncle, Roosevelt (Felita) 4 5 Jones; his aunts, Mary Barlow, Cherie Pennington, Debra Jones, 6 Moore; his great-aunt, Spicie Jovce Belk; 7 cousin/sister, Rhonda Horton; his special cousins, Sabrian "Boo" Sledge, Tilisha "TeTe" Harrison, and Essie Searcy; his 8 9 lifelong friends, Donald Davis, George Williams, Eric Reeves, 10 and Jesse Spears; and numerous cousins, other relatives, and
- RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
 we mourn the passing of Kenyetta Javon "Ken" Barlow Sr. and
 extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all
 who knew and loved him; and be it further
- 17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be 18 presented to the family of Ken Barlow as an expression of our 19 deepest sympathy.