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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened  
3 to learn of the death of Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) Frank  
4 Bernardo Belergy Martin Jr.; and

5           WHEREAS, Frank Martin was born in Magnolia, Mississippi to  
6 Frank Sr. and Lillian Varnado Martin on September 2, 1936; he  
7 lived in Magnolia, Mississippi during his early years and  
8 later moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he graduated from  
9 Booker T. Washington High School; and

10           WHEREAS, Frank Martin enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age  
11 of 17 and served a total of 42 years in the military; he was  
12 honorably discharged with a highly decorated career;  
13 throughout his time in the Army, he served as a military police  
14 officer and paratrooper and completed Ranger training; he was  
15 deployed to the Korean War and later joined the Marine Corps  
16 Reserve; he made several firsts in the military as an African  
17 American, and when the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center  
18 and School allowed African Americans to assess for the special  
19 forces, he was one of the first selected to train and became a  
20 special operations soldier; from 1960 to 1978, he served in  
21 several special forces units; and

22           WHEREAS, Frank Martin began his 36-year career in law

1 enforcement in New Orleans, Louisiana, working at the 6th  
2 District Police Station and the detective bureau for the New  
3 Orleans Police Department; he then joined the Chicago Police  
4 Department, holding several positions during his tenure there;  
5 he joined the Country Club Hills Police Department as a  
6 lieutenant; in all, he served as chief of police in three  
7 jurisdictions in Illinois, including Ford Heights, Hopkins  
8 Park, and Sauk Village; and

9 WHEREAS, Frank Martin served as alderman for the 5th ward  
10 in Country Club Hills; and

11 WHEREAS, Frank Martin was affectionately known as "Junior"  
12 and "Sam" when he was young, and then as "Paw Paw" and "Paw Paw  
13 Frank" by his grandchildren; he loved to count the number of  
14 great-grandchildren he had; he gave them nicknames and enjoyed  
15 hearing of their escapades; his heart was always with his  
16 family, and he was there for everyone, always willing to help,  
17 to celebrate, to console, and to support, with no complaint,  
18 in pride and love; he maintained a close relationship with all  
19 of his siblings; his pride extended to his nieces and nephews  
20 and their families, and he often spoke of their  
21 accomplishments; and

22 WHEREAS, Frank Martin was preceded in death by his wife,  
23 Prunella Perrault Martin; his parents; his brothers, Thomas

1 Jefferson Martin, Walter Lee Martin Sr., and Burnell Martin;  
2 his sisters, Lillie Mae Martin Lames, Emily O'Neil Martin, and  
3 Alma Cotton; his grandson, Leo Kevin Mitchell; and a host of  
4 aunts, uncles, and loved ones; and

5 WHEREAS, Frank Martin is survived by his wife, Rosie  
6 Martin; his children, Leimomi (Stephen) Martin Hodo, Leilani  
7 (Charles) Martin Armstrong, Frank (Grace) Martin III, Antonio  
8 (Angela) Martin, and Andre Martin; his stepson, Ronald  
9 Clemmons; his grandchildren, LaSar (Iris) Martin, Leslie  
10 (Sita) Martin, Rachel Powe, Charles (Sonia) Martin Armstrong,  
11 Christy (Calvin) Hoover, James (Chasity) Shelly, Ross  
12 (Victoria) Armstrong, George (Alyss) Hill, Jordan (Dominique)  
13 Armstrong, Taylor Hart, Bail Martin, and Starsheanna (Ryan)  
14 Breeze Washington; 20 great-grandchildren; his sisters, Mary  
15 Alice (Carl) Christian and Darlene Martin; his nephews, Roy  
16 (Dories) Melson, Walter (Lynn) Martin Jr., Rodrick Towns,  
17 Alfred Bradfield, Carl (Danyell) Christian, Carey (Jacqueline)  
18 Christian, and Vernell (Gabrielle) Martin; his nieces, Gwanda  
19 Adams, Michelle Hector, Tara (Larry) Martin, and Theresa  
20 (Ricky) Mack; and his childhood friend, Harry (Dorothy)  
21 Perrault; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
24 Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) Frank Bernardo Belergy Martin

1 Jr. and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends,  
2 and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to the family of Frank Martin as an expression of our  
5 deepest sympathy.