

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On January 18, 2003 the State of Illinois gives  
3 recognition to the Ken Bridges Institute on Black Economics,  
4 which has been developed to continue teaching the concepts  
5 and life lessons which are critical to the uplifting and  
6 internal reparation of and for people of African descent; and

7 WHEREAS, Ken Bridges began his teaching in the 1980s, and  
8 with partner and Co-founder Al Wellington, continued those  
9 important lessons through MATAH, which was created to  
10 describe a segment of people of African descent who know that  
11 giving and buying Black is the key to obtaining true freedom;  
12 they had a clear understanding that in order for people of  
13 African descent to move forward as a group, not just a few  
14 but as a race, psychological, social and economic freedom is  
15 the key; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Bridges teachings on the practice of a race  
17 first concept is critical to the up-liftment and advancement  
18 of Black people; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Bridges life was cut short on October 11,  
20 2002; his wife, Jocelyn Bridges, and his six children can be  
21 proud to know that the A. Phillip Randolph Pullman Porter  
22 Museum has made the decision to institutionalize the ideas  
23 and teachings of Ken Bridges by establishing the Ken Bridges  
24 Lecture Hall and the first Ken Bridges Institute on Black  
25 Economics; through the Institute, the ideas of Ken Bridges  
26 and MATAH will impact people in a life changing way for  
27 generations to come; and

28 WHEREAS, If not for the A. Phillip Randolph Pullman  
29 Porter Museum establishing this tradition, beginning with the  
30 Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Black Railroad  
31 Employees, the contribution of these individuals would not be  
32 honored in the manner they deserve; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3           we commend the A. Phillip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum, and  
4           its founder Lyn Hughes for their leadership role in honoring  
5           those people of African descent who have made contributions  
6           but in many instances have remained unrecognized; and be it  
7           further

8           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9           presented to the family of Ken Bridges with our respect and  
10          esteem.