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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives congratulate Cecilia D. Peeler on her retirement from her position as the Executive Assistant to the Cook County State's Attorney and as the Director of Community Affairs; and

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WHEREAS, Cecilia Peeler is Executive Assistant to the Cook County State's Attorney Richard A. Devine; she is also Director of Community Affairs; one of her primary responsibilities is to oversee the Community Relations and Special Events Unit, which speaks to students and community organizations on a variety of topics including anti-gang violence, ending hate crimes, and creating safer communities; and

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WHEREAS, Cecilia Peeler started her career in Cook County Government 27 years ago; in 1989, while with the Clerk's Office, she was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Juvenile Division and within six months became Chief of the Juvenile Division; as the first African-American female Chief in the history of the Clerk's Office, she jumped in headfirst and tackled some of the most pressing issues facing the Juvenile Division; and

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WHEREAS, Ms. Peeler's proficiency in communications, innovative thinking, progressive cost-cutting ideas, and dedication earned her the respect of her peers and administrators and a promotion as Director of Child Support; after three successful hard working years, she was appointed to the position of Associated Clerk of the Family Law Bureau (the first African American to hold this position) which consisted of the Child Support, Domestic Relations, Juvenile Justice, and Child Protection divisions; in this capacity, she presided over the organization and administration of all

1 court-related functions in the Family Law Bureau, a budget of
2 over \$110 million dollars and a staff of over 350; and

3 WHEREAS, Throughout her extensive career in the Clerk's
4 office and current duties with the State's Attorney's Office,
5 she has a valued reputation for being a liaison with public
6 officials on every level of government, along with religious
7 and community leaders; and

8 WHEREAS, Although she has received numerous awards,
9 commendations and testimonials because of her community
10 involvement, one of her proudest moments was when she
11 received the 1996 Cook County Superior Public Service Award
12 for Outstanding Executive Employee, from the Board of
13 Commissioners of Cook County; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Peeler serves as board member on several
15 service-oriented organizations that address the needs of
16 juveniles and provide care to victims of domestic violence;
17 she is the president of her block club, an active member of
18 various organizations including the NAACP, the Rainbow Push
19 Coalition, the Park Manor Neighbors, the National Council of
20 Negro Women, the National Forum for Black Public
21 Administrators, the Westside Association for Community
22 Action, On Our Own, and many others; therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
24 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
25 we congratulate Cecilia D. Peeler on her retirement from the
26 Cook County State's Attorney's office and as Director of
27 Community Affairs and wish her good health and happiness in
28 all of her future endeavors; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
30 presented to Cecilia D. Peeler as an expression of our
31 respect and esteem.