

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of  
4 Reverend Elmer L. Fowler of Chicago on Wednesday, May 28,  
5 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, Rev. Fowler is the Founder and Pastor Emeritus  
7 of the Third Baptist Church of Chicago; he organized the  
8 church in March of 1963 with eight members and built it into  
9 one of the largest churches on Chicago's south side; he  
10 served as pastor until his retirement in December of 1992,  
11 when he turned over the mantle of leadership to Rev. Dr. Alan  
12 V. Ragland, who now served the church as its senior pastor;  
13 upon his retirement, Rev. Fowler was also given the honored  
14 status of Pastor Emeritus; and

15 WHEREAS, Rev. Elmer Fowler was known throughout  
16 Chicagoland and the nation as a committed pastor, a civil  
17 rights activist, a renowned public leader, and a passionate  
18 historian of African American culture through photographs;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Rev. Fowler's passing will be deeply felt by his  
21 family and friends; a memorial service will be held to  
22 celebrate the life, ministry, and legacy of Rev. Fowler on  
23 Saturday, June 7, 2003 at the Third Baptist Church in  
24 Chicago; therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
26 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
27 we mourn the passing of Reverend Elmer L. Fowler along with  
28 all who knew and loved him and extend our sincere condolences  
29 to his family, friends, and community; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
31 presented to the family of Reverend Elmer L. Fowler as an

1 expression of our deepest sympathy.