



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize Ms. Ceola Davis Barnes,
4 principal of Jane A. Neil Elementary School at 8555 South
5 Michigan in Chicago, for her dedication to educational
6 excellence; and

7 WHEREAS, Jane A. Neil Elementary School has 169 faculty and
8 staff members and 382 students; the school serves students with
9 various disabilities as well as a population of General
10 Education Students; and

11 WHEREAS, As principal, Ms. Barnes is involved in every
12 aspect of the school's operations, including assigning
13 students to classes, evaluating teachers, enforcing the rules,
14 and maintenance of the building; she is the school's leader and
15 sets the tone for the school climate; as the school's leader,
16 her actions are noticed and interpreted by others as what is
17 important; she communicates the school's vision and mission
18 clearly and consistently to staff members, parents, and
19 students and fosters standards for teaching and learning that
20 are high and attainable; and

21 WHEREAS, The Area Instructional Officer, the school board,
22 the staff, and the parents hold her accountable in formal and
23 informal ways for the school's outcomes; she serves as an
24 instructional leader, a building manager, an agent of change, a
25 personnel administrator, and a disciplinarian; she is often
26 called upon to solve academic and social problems and involve
27 parents in the school's decisions; and

28 WHEREAS, Ms. Barnes has extended her leadership qualities
29 to the community by serving as chairperson of the Lambda Tau
30 Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
31 "Rising Stars:4 A Tribute to African American Young Men" annual

1 affair; she sits on the Advisory Board of the Reclaim a Youth
2 (RAY) Organization; her commitment to service, educational
3 excellence, and a desire to give back to a higher learning
4 institution led her to be the 1st runner-up in the 2000 "Miss
5 UAPB Alumni Queen" contest representing the Greater
6 Chicago-Metro, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB)
7 Alumni Chapter; her efforts assisted in raising \$28,000 for her
8 alma mater; and

9 WHEREAS, Her accomplishments also include recognition and
10 awards such as the Coca Cola Outstanding Educator Award, AKA
11 Service Awards, the Black Educator Award (Cosmopolitan
12 Community Church), the New Faith Baptist Church Leader Award,
13 and the Outstanding Educator's Award for the 7th Congressional
14 District; and

15 WHEREAS, The school is paying tribute to Ms. Ceola Davis
16 Barnes at the Faculty End of the Year Recognition Program for
17 her inspiring leadership and constructive influence;
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
21 honor Ms. Ceola Davis Barnes for her dedication to excellence
22 in education; and we wish her good health and happiness in all
23 her future endeavors; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
25 presented to Ms. Ceola Davis Barnes as a token of our
26 admiration.