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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Earl Henry Dobbins on Monday, June 14, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dobbins was born on March 15, 1919, in Port Gibson, Mississippi, to Reverend S.L. and Mariah (Dunn) Dobbins; he was the fourth child of 10 children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dobbins moved to East St. Louis in 1940 and joined New Era Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon; he later joined Lilly Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where he also served as a deacon; throughout his life, he served as a deacon for over 60 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dobbins married Christine Gladney in 1966; they were married for 38 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dobbins was a pioneer and worked hard to keep the MCC College in East St. Louis; he helped organize the Illinois Park on 26th Street, where children could play; he fought for the NAACP and organized the Concerned Citizens for Justice; he was known as someone who would not turn away a person asking for help and as one who helped the sick in any way he could; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dobbins' latest project, the Earl H. Dobbins Vocational Training Center was very close to his heart; he wanted to help young people in East St. Louis make an honest living and to help them "get off the streets"; the training center was his dream to help in that manner; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Earl Henry Dobbins has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Christine Dobbins; his daughters, Doris Lockett, Rosalind Thomas, and Joyce Bennett;

1 his sister, Florine Humphrey; his devoted cousin, Willie
2 Cooper; his 10 grandchildren; his 9 great-grandchildren; his
3 one great-great-grandchild; and his many nieces, nephews and
4 cousins; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
7 mourn the passing of Earl Henry Dobbins, and we extend our
8 deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and all who knew and
9 loved him; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Earl Henry Dobbins as an expression
12 of our sincere condolences.