



1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Robert Conley Berry, a 44-year resident of  
3 Chicago, passed away on May 2, 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Berry was born on October 11, 1926, in  
5 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to Oliver, Sr., and Beedie Jones  
6 Berry; he was the fifth of seven boys; and

7 WHEREAS, He received his education in Hattiesburg,  
8 Mississippi, and Chicago; he was known for his electrical work;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, He was the fifth son to serve his country in World  
11 War II; five brothers served at the same time in World War II  
12 and one brother was lost in action; he moved to Chicago after  
13 his discharge from the armed services; and

14 WHEREAS, He married Betty J. Arington; he retired after 34  
15 years of service from the U.S. Postal Service; as a postal  
16 employee, he also served in the position of a union steward;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, For many years, he was a member of Celia Gregg  
19 A.M.E. Church; he served in many capacities, including trustee,  
20 president pro tempore, secretary of the board, local lay  
21 president, and usher; he served several times as men's day  
22 chairperson and was involved in many church fundraising events;  
23 he most recently was a member of St. Mary's A.M.E. Church; and

24 WHEREAS, Active in his community, he was elected a number  
25 of times as president of his block club; he was a member of the  
26 Dukes Social Club; and

27 WHEREAS, He was a devoted father, husband, brother, and  
28 grandfather who was lovingly called "Pop Berry" or "Dad"; he

1 loved to cook for his family and friends and his specialties  
2 included zucchini casserole, barbeque, and spaghetti with an  
3 unusual touch; and

4 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents and five  
5 brothers, John, Oliver Jr., Edward, Eugene, and Willie; and

6 WHEREAS, The passing of Robert Conley Berry is felt by all  
7 who knew and loved him, especially his wife of 49 years and 10  
8 months, Betty; his daughters, Dora Clay and Vera Peterson; his  
9 son-in-law, Terry Peterson; his granddaughters, Lisa and  
10 Betty; his great-grandchildren, Wendell and Crystal; his  
11 brother, Leon; his sister-in-law, Clarice Berry, his  
12 brother-in-law, Joseph Arington; and a host of nieces, nephews,  
13 cousins, friends, neighbors, and numerous godchildren;  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we extend our sincerest  
17 condolences to the members of his family and to all those who  
18 mourn the passing of Robert Conley Berry; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest  
21 sympathy.