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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Laura Lucille Cherry Barnes of Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes was born on January 31, 1941, in Panola, Alabama; she was the first born to Mrs. Almeta Barnes and Mr. Houston Cherry Speights; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes, who was affectionately called "Homey", confessed her belief in Christ and was baptized at St. John Baptist Church; she attended St. John Elementary School and North Sumter High School; and

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WHEREAS, On July 24, 1958, she was united in holy matrimony to Vernon L. Barnes; God blessed their union with three loving children; her primary goal in life was keeping her commitment to God, her husband, and most of all, to her grandchildren and great-grandchild; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes was employed at Everwear Luggage Company for eighteen years; after retiring, she became actively involved in buying and selling antiques, which later became an intricate part of her life; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes was the president of the 7700 South Ada Block Club for many years; she truly enjoyed working with the youth and planning special activities; she and her committee members worked diligently toward the upkeep of the neighborhood; the Annual Block Club Party was the event closest to her heart; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes faithfully worked with the Seventeenth Ward Alderman Office for many years; she was well known for getting the constituents out to vote; and

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1           WHEREAS, Mrs. Barnes was always willing to help the  
2 underprivileged; she was actively involved with the Chicago  
3 Police 006th District Steering Committee; she served as  
4 chairperson for the Sick and Welfare Committee and was a  
5 devoted volunteer for the Annual Senior Citizen Dinner; and

6           WHEREAS, The passing of Laura Lucille Cherry Barnes has  
7 been deeply felt by many, especially her husband, Vernon; her  
8 two sons, Vernon, Jr. and Virdon; her daughter, Vernessa; her  
9 three grandchildren, Sean, Darrius, and Anaya; her  
10 great-grandson, Trenton; her seven sisters, Barbara, Ann  
11 (Robert) Keuch, Lillie (Tyrone) Thomas, Verniece, Doris,  
12 Burretha, and Eloise; her six brothers, Barnes, Jr. (Lana),  
13 Leon (Connie), Edward (Diane), Al (Cora) Williams, Abraham  
14 Cherry, and Houston, Jr.; her sisters-in-law, Venita Barnes and  
15 Aurelia (Ulysses) Gholston; her brother-in-law, Taylor  
16 (Sharon) Barnes, Jr.; her aunts, Ethel Brown, Catherine Dent,  
17 Mary, Rose, and Aurelia Barnes; her uncle-in-law, David Taylor;  
18 and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and other loving  
19 neighborhood friends; therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
22 Laura Lucille Cherry Barnes, and we extend our sincerest  
23 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
24 her; and be it further

25           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
26 presented to her family as an expression of our deepest  
27 sympathy for their loss.