1   SENATE RESOLUTION

2   WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to

3   learn of the death of Charles Rheon Brock of Champaign, who

4   passed away on September 29, 2008; and

5   WHEREAS, Charles Rheon Brock, also known as Chuck, was born

6   on September 26, 1953 in Greenville, Mississippi to Odessa

7   Delores and the late Emmett Brock, Sr.; he was the third of

8   four children born to that union; Charles attended Julia L.

9   Armstrong and Melissa Manning Elementary Schools; he attended

10   Coleman High School, where he played the tuba in the marching

11   band; due to integration, he graduated in 1971 from Greenville

12   High School; and

13   WHEREAS, After graduation he attended the University of

14   Illinois-Urbana, where he majored in Political Science; he was

15   a defensive tackle for the Illini football team; he pledged

16   Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Tau Chapter; after

17   leaving the University he partnered with two people, Revie

18   Sorey, his former classmate at the University, and Jack Weiner;

19   together they became the first two African-American fur

20   wholesalers in the country; and

21   WHEREAS, In 1987 he became the Executive Director of the

22   Roseland Business Development Council under Mayor Richard M.

1   Daley in Chicago; during his tenure in the Roseland community,
2   his organization was a delegate agency to the City of Chicago;
3   the organization provided technical assistance to the business
4   community and developed low and moderate homes for area
5   residents; in 1987 he teamed up with Reverend Dr. William
6   Samuel to do affordable housing in the City of Chicago; and

7   WHEREAS, He relocated to Champaign, where he held the title
8   of Senior Vice President and Executive Director of Westwood
9   Community Development in East Central Illinois; in 1992 he
10   totally lost his sight due to the effects of diabetes; in spite
11   of his blindness, he never stopped being active in community
12   projects and caring for residents in the community; and

13   WHEREAS, He and his wife, Christine, were united in
14   marriage on October 24, 1998 in Chicago and he became a
15   stepfather to Alex; in 1999 he ran for Mayor of Champaign; he
16   was the first Chairman for the Resident Advisory Board of
17   Champaign County Housing Urban and Development; he was a member
18   of the Church of the Living God in Champaign; in 1996 he had a
19   city-wide Youth Conference in Champaign; he was the founder of
20   Brock Innovative Group, Project Vowels for American Veterans,
21   Rheon Entertainment, and had recently started the Old School
22   Music Project to preserve 50s, 60s, and 70s music; he had a
23   television show on Public Access in Urbana and a former Old
24   School Music radio show; he interviewed celebrities such as the

1 O'Jays, Nancy Wilson, Jerry Butler, The Chi-Lites, The Dells,

2 The Emotions, Tom Joyner, The Temptations, Ludacris, the late

3 James Brown, Gerald Levert, and many other artists; in 2003 he

4 started the Academic Athlete of the Month where high school

5 students were honored for their achievements; and he created

6 many community events, including the Illi-Bears for the Illini

7 fans; and

8   WHEREAS, He leaves his loving wife, Christine; his son,

9 Alex Cater; his play daughter, Kristina Joi Hunt; his devoted

10 mother, Odessa Brock; his two sisters, Deborah (Solomon)

11 Osborne and Sheila (Aaron) Capers; his brother, Emmett (Dawn)

12 Brock, Jr.; his two sister-laws, Vanessa Johnson and Janet

13 Johnson; his special friends, Neda Lewis, Vicky Greear, and

14 James and Reynonda Branch; and a host of dear fraternity

15 brothers, many nephews, nieces, and a congregation of family

16 and friends; therefore, be it

17   RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL

18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with

19 his family and friends, the passing of Charles Brock; and be it

20 further

21   RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

22 presented to the family of Charles Brock as a symbol of our

23 sincere sympathy.