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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Cara Program
4 for receiving the 2009 Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence
5 Award for community groups who have exemplary programs in
6 communities faced with poverty; and

7 WHEREAS, The Cara Program was founded in 1991 by Chicagoan,
8 entrepreneur, and philanthropist, Thomas M. Owens; and

9 WHEREAS, The Cara Program is a premier model for
10 alleviating poverty in the nation; working with hundreds of top
11 companies, community organizations, volunteers, and funders,
12 The Cara Program has placed 2,500 motivated Chicagoans affected
13 by homelessness and poverty into permanent, quality employment
14 with wages well-above Illinois minimum wage and benefits since
15 1991; and

16 WHEREAS, Through The Cara Program's intensive training and
17 support services, thousands of Chicagoans and their families
18 have been empowered to break out of the cycle of poverty and
19 onto the path of self-sufficiency; and

20 WHEREAS, Cleanslate, The Cara Program's social enterprise,
21 also helps to revitalize Chicago's communities by providing

1 neighborhood beautification services while providing
2 transitional employment (internships) to Cara students with
3 significant obstacles to employment; and

4 WHEREAS, The Cara Program will receive the 2009 Bank of
5 America Neighborhood Excellence Award on November 18, 2009;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 congratulate the Cara Program on receiving the 2009 Bank of
10 America Neighborhood Excellence Award and thank them for their
11 efforts in alleviating unemployment and poverty; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Thomas Owens as a symbol of our respect and
15 esteem.