



HR1450

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to honor the staff and management
4 of Ebony magazine on the 65th anniversary of publication; and

5 WHEREAS, Ebony is the number one source for a unique
6 perspective on the African-American community; Ebony combines
7 news items with cultural items, celebrity news with fashion
8 trends, and covers items of interest to its readership; and

9 WHEREAS, Negro Digest was first published in November of
10 1942 and led to the founding of Ebony magazine in November of
11 1945 by John H. Johnson; John Johnson was born in poverty but
12 rose to be included in the Forbes list of the 400 richest
13 Americans; and

14 WHEREAS, He was a member of the Publishing Hall of Fame,
15 the National Business Hall of Fame, the Advertising Hall of
16 Fame, and the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame; he received the
17 Spingarn Medal, the highest award of the NAACP, and the Salute
18 to Greatness Award, presented by Martin Luther King Jr. Center,
19 for his contributions to civil rights; and

20 WHEREAS, He was named the Publisher of the Year in 1972 by
21 the Magazine Publishers Association; in 1974, he was named "The

1 Most Outstanding Black Publisher in History" by the National
2 Newspapers Publishers Association; and in 2003 he was named
3 "The Greatest Minority Entrepreneur in U.S. History" by Baylor
4 University and saw the naming of the journalism school at
5 Howard University to the John H. Johnson School of
6 Communications; and

7 WHEREAS, John Johnson passed away on August 8, 2005, the
8 60th anniversary year of the first publication of Ebony
9 magazine; and

10 WHEREAS, Linda Johnson Rice currently serves as the
11 Chairman of Johnson Publishing Company, Desiree Rogers is the
12 Chief Executive Officer, and Rodrigo Sierra serves as Chief
13 Marketing Officer and Senior Vice President of the company;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
16 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
17 congratulate the staff and management of Ebony Magazine on this
18 special anniversary year and wish them continued success for
19 years to come; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to Linda Johnson Rice as a symbol of our respect and
22 esteem.