



HR1475

LRB096 24215 GRL 43660 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize the members of the
4 Austin African American Business Networking Association
5 (AAABNA) for their work in the Austin community; and

6 WHEREAS, AAABNA was founded in 2003 by Mr. Malcolm
7 Crawford, Mr. Rickey Sanders, and Ms. Aleatra Elzy as a way of
8 pooling resources to bring about change in the Austin business
9 community through the creation of African-American business
10 growth through networking and various support programs for
11 emerging and existing businesses; and

12 WHEREAS, AAABNA has been responsible for hosting monthly
13 meetings with area businesses, elected officials, the Chicago
14 Police Department, and a host of others, allowing these groups
15 to join forces to address issues in the Austin community;
16 AAABNA was the driving force behind the design team that
17 created the Austin Business and Entrepreneurship Academy at the
18 new Austin campus; AAABNA has also begun the creation of a
19 prominent community garden and planters on Chicago Avenue in
20 order to beautify the Austin business district; AAABNA, in
21 conjunction with the Austin Chamber of Commerce, also hosts an
22 all-day business summit that brings federal, state, and local
23 agencies together to disseminate information needed to create

1 and sustain local businesses; and

2 WHEREAS, AAABNA's overall goal is to create an
3 African-American focused business district that showcases all
4 of the sights, sounds, and foods that make up the African
5 American experience in order to make the Austin community a
6 beautiful and safe place for residents, business leaders, and
7 friends alike; and

8 WHEREAS, The members of AAABNA serve as models of hard
9 work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of
10 Illinois; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 recognize and thank the members of the Austin African American
14 Business Networking Association for their work in the Austin
15 business community and wish them continued success and
16 happiness in the future; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the Austin African American Business Networking
19 Association as a symbol of our esteem and respect.