



SR0726

LRB096 21662 GRL 39114 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Herrett Clyde Parker, who passed away on January 9, 2010; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker was born on March 15, 1948, in St. Louis, Missouri; her parents were Elijah Clyde and Carrie Mae (Stover) Spencer; she married John M. Parker Jr. on October 23, 1966; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker attended and was a graduate of East St. Louis Lincoln Senior High School; she then attended Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, where she earned college credits towards a degree in business management; she also earned an associate's degree in child development and completed specialized training in hospitality management from State Community College of East St. Louis; and

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker served her country with pride and distinction as a medical service specialist in the United States Air Force; she was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1967; and

17

18

19

20

WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker was a former employee of the Edison Brothers Shoe Company; from 1997 to 2005, she and her

21

1 husband operated the Parker Garden Bed and Breakfast, the only
2 black-owned bed and breakfast inn in the State of Illinois; the
3 Parker Garden Bed and Breakfast earned numerous awards,
4 including the Power of Minority Business Excellence Award from
5 the Secretary of State, and was the subject of numerous stories
6 from media outlets, such as KSDK-TV in St. Louis, the Kansas
7 City Star, the New York Times, and Emerge Magazine; and

8 WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker was a founding member of the
9 National Black Innkeepers Association; she also served for 15
10 years as a spokesperson for the African-Americans Uniting for
11 Life, where she championed the bone marrow transplant cause,
12 educated many African-Americans about the unique need for
13 African-American donors, and inspired hundreds of people to
14 give a second chance at life; and

15 WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker enjoyed designing,
16 decorating, gardening, reading, entertaining, and having
17 thought-provoking and impassioned conversations with others;
18 she also enjoyed traveling with her husband, particularly her
19 10 years of vacations to various African countries, such as
20 Gambia, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Senegal; and

21 WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker was preceded in death by her
22 mother; and

1 WHEREAS, Herrett Clyde Parker is survived by her loving
2 husband of 43 years, John; her daughter, Sunya T. Bozeman; her
3 grandson, Delvrick J. Bozeman; her father; her brother, Bernard
4 "Butch" Spencer; her sisters, Dianne (James) Ritchett and
5 Sheila (Melvin) Goodwin; her aunts, Bernice Willis, Joe Ella
6 Draper, Thelma Stover, and Theresa Looney; her uncles,
7 Commodore Mister and Gillespie (Angie) Spencer; her
8 father-in-law, John M. Parker; her brother-in-law, Donald
9 Parker; her sisters-in-law, Delaree (Charles) Maddox, Gloria
10 M. Parker, Patricia (Edmond Brown) Parker, Karen (Vernon)
11 Davis, and Patresa A. Parker; and her many nephews, nieces, and
12 friends; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
15 her family and friends, the passing of Herrett Clyde Parker;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Herrett Clyde Parker as an
19 expression of our sympathy.