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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Arrado Bostic Claybrooks, who passed away on July 3, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks was born on February 9, 1912, in Ripley, Tennessee; her parents were Eldorado and Mary Epton Bostic; her family migrated to Blytheville, Arkansas when she was 2 years old; and

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WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks was a devout Christian and accepted Jesus Christ into her life at an early age; as a child and young adult, she attended Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Blytheville, Arkansas; she later boasted that 3 of her sons, Joe Willie, James, and Eldorado, became ministers; in her later years, she joined the Original Christian Union Baptist Church where her eldest son, Reverend Joe Willie Claybrooks, serves as Pastor; and

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WHEREAS, In 1931, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks met and married Herrod Claybrooks; to this union 12 children were born, Joe Willie, Pearlene, Theodore, Leora, Herrod Jr., Frank, Evelyn, Barbara, Jacky, James, Eldorado, and Glendora; and

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WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks was a mother and

1 housewife in every sense of the word; she raised her children
2 and watched as they left the South one by one for better living
3 and economic conditions in the north; eventually, she was
4 persuaded by her children to move north; in 1968, she moved to
5 Chicago, bringing along her elderly mother; she then served as
6 her mother's faithful caretaker, until Mary desired to return
7 to Blytheville to reside with her daughter, Gertie, until her
8 passing; and

9 WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks was well known by her
10 family and friends for her giant and keen memory, humorous wit,
11 and sharp tongue; she was regarded by many as being able to
12 read and interpret the Bible better than any theologian; she
13 also boasted of her family ancestry and history all the way
14 back to her great-great grandparents, who were of Cherokee and
15 African descent, and of her family's great longevity; and

16 WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks was preceded in death by
17 her parents; her husband, Herrod; her siblings, LuWillie,
18 Corina Selena, Lorenzo, Sylvester, Ella Mac, Gertie, and
19 Henrietta; and her children, Leora, Frank, Pearlene, Theodore,
20 Herrod Jr., and Barbara; and

21 WHEREAS, Arrado Bostic Claybrooks is survived by her
22 children, Rev. Joe Willie (Luevne), Evelyn Hinton (Eddie),
23 Jackie, Rev. James E., Rev. Eldorado, and Glendora; her 57

1 grandchildren; her 64 great-grandchildren; her 34
2 great-great-grandchildren; and her many other relatives and
3 extended friends who called her "Grandma"; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
6 her family and friends, the passing of Arrado Bostic
7 Claybrooks; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Arrado Bostic Claybrooks as an
10 expression of our sympathy.