



SR1030

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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 Mrs. Bernice Thompson of Chicago, who recently passed away; and

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WHEREAS, She was born in Belzoni, Mississippi, on March 18, 1923, and live there until 1941; she made a public proclamation of her love of God at Stranger's Home Missionary Baptist Church in Isola, Mississippi; and

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WHEREAS, After moving to Chicago she worked in a government defense plant; she later worked for the fashion industry until retiring in 1988; she also opened a shop in her home where she created designs for weddings, proms, and other occasions; and

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WHEREAS, She was a member of Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, where she served on the nurse's board and the missionary society; she was also a member of the Board of Director of the Melvin Powell Sr. Scholarship Fund; and

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WHEREAS, She was especially close to her son and enjoyed watching him rise through the ranks of the Chicago Police Department and serve as interim alderman for the 9th Ward at the request of the Mayor of Chicago, taking a temporary leave from the Police Department; and when he was called to be a

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1 Deacon in the church, she was full of pride that he had been
2 chosen for that task; she was also close to her grandson,
3 Melvin Powell, Jr., whom she lovingly called "Tiger"; and

4 WHEREAS, She was preceded in death by her husband, Deacon
5 Otis Thompson; her son, Deacon Melvin Powell, Sr.; her parents;
6 her 3 brothers and one sister; and

7 WHEREAS, She is survived by her brothers, Jose McCoy (Alma
8 Jean) and Earnest James; her sister-in-law, Billie McCoy; her
9 daughter-in-law, Dian M. Powell; her grandson, Melvin Powell,
10 Jr.; her great-granddaughters, Ashley Dian Powell and
11 Gabrielle Dyan Powell; her great-great-granddaughter, Taylor
12 Diahann Sharon Hunter; her 11 nephews; her 10 nieces, including
13 Ollie Bell Butler, Bernice Powell, and Deazaeree Guider; her
14 God-daughter, Aretha Walker Morris; the family of her late
15 husband; and a host of relatives, friends, and members of her
16 church family; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
19 her family and friends, the passing of Bernice Thompson; and be
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Bernice Thompson as a symbol of our

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1 sincere sympathy.