



HR1004

LRB097 21166 GRL 68696 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Dr. Sandra F. Lewis  
4 on the occasion of her retirement as Principal of Harold  
5 Washington Elementary School in Chicago; and

6           WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Lewis attended Chicago Public Schools;  
7 she subsequently earned her bachelor's degree from Chicago  
8 State University in 1967, her master's degree from Governors  
9 State University in 1976, and her Ed.D. from Roosevelt  
10 University in 1995; and

11           WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Lewis began her educational career as a  
12 teacher at Burnside School in 1967, where she remained until  
13 1975; in 1976, she began working as a teacher at Harold  
14 Washington Elementary School (HWES); she later served as  
15 Assistant Principal and Counselor at HWES before becoming the  
16 school's principal in 1989; she also served as an adjunct  
17 professor at Roosevelt University in 1996, a probation manager  
18 from 1997 to 1999, and as a Launch Mentor from 1998 to 1999;  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, During her tenure as Principal of Harold  
21 Washington Elementary School, Dr. Sandra Lewis created  
22 numerous initiatives to improve the school's educational

1 opportunities; she was instrumental in the creation of the  
2 school's "Structured Curriculum" and the school store, where  
3 students can purchase school supplies, school uniforms, ties,  
4 gifts, and other Afro-Centric Artifacts; under her guidance,  
5 HWES has been recognized as a technological site by the Chicago  
6 Public School System, with multiple computers in every  
7 classroom; she also helped to created the school's Afro-Centric  
8 Curriculum, a school environment where the artifacts,  
9 pictures, and location names reflect the history and culture of  
10 people the students can identify with, and the school's "Early  
11 Intervention System", which combats student learning problems  
12 with small class sizes; the Early Intervention System increased  
13 the number of HWES students reading at or above grade level  
14 from 11% in 1989 to approximately 60% in 1994; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Lewis is a member of the Chicago  
16 Alliance of Black School Educators, Whitman Academy, and the  
17 Chicago Principal's Association; she is also a board member  
18 with Teachers for Chicago; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Lewis has been the recipient of  
20 numerous awards and accolades for her work, including Project  
21 Canal's Outstanding Leadership Award (1992, 1993, 1994), the  
22 Whitman Award for Outstanding Leadership (1991), the Chicago  
23 Public School Award for Outstanding Leadership, the Chicago  
24 Alliance of Black School Educators Award for Dedicated Service

1 (1990), the Harold Washington Parent Award for Leadership  
2 (1991, 1995, 1996), the Community Linkage Award (1990), the  
3 First Annual "ICONS" Award from the International Council on  
4 Nutrition Solutions (1997), the Kizzy Award (1998), the Build  
5 Your Life Social Development award (1999), and the Educator of  
6 the Year award from One Church, One School (2000); and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Lewis serves as a model of hard work,  
8 integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of  
9 Illinois; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we congratulate Dr. Sandra F. Lewis on the occasion of her  
13 retirement and wish her many happy and healthy retirement  
14 years; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 presented to Dr. Sandra Lewis as a symbol of our esteem and  
17 respect.