



HR1288

LRB097 23212 MST 72035 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are deeply saddened to learn of the death of
4 Geraldine Mardis (nee Lane) of Chicago, who passed away on
5 October 12, 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, Geraldine Mardis was born in Minneapolis,
7 Minnesota to Bessie and Roscoe Lane; she graduated from Parker
8 High School and received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of
9 Arts degrees in Social Service Administration from the
10 University of Chicago, where she was a member of the Delta
11 Sigma Theta Sorority; and

12 WHEREAS, During her time at the University of Chicago,
13 Geraldine Mardis was such a popular and outstanding student
14 that she was nominated by her friends for the honor of having
15 her picture placed in the Cap and Gown, an annual student
16 yearbook, as the university's representative beauty; and

17 WHEREAS, Geraldine Mardis married Winston Mardis; she was
18 mother to Winston L. Mardis and mother-in-law to Barbara Anne
19 (nee Hinton); and

20 WHEREAS, Geraldine Mardis was a member of the National
21 Association of Social Workers, spent many years of her life

1 caring for others, and is believed to be the first African
2 American hired as a medical social worker in the city; and

3 WHEREAS, Geraldine Mardis worked as a medical social worker
4 at Michael Reese Hospital, where she provided care for
5 preschool-age children with physical disabilities, and at Rest
6 Haven Rehabilitation Hospital, where she was appointed
7 Director of the Social Service Department and voted "Employee
8 of the Year"; and

9 WHEREAS, Geraldine Mardis broke new ground with her life at
10 a time when opportunities were often difficult to come by for
11 African Americans; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we mourn the passing of Geraldine Mardis and extend our sincere
15 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
16 her; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Geraldine Mardis as an expression of
19 our sincere condolences.