



HR0979

LRB098 20804 MST 57971 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Frank  
4 Warren "Frankie" Knuckles, Jr. of Chicago, who passed away on  
5 March 31, 2014; and

6           WHEREAS, Frankie Knuckles was born in the Bronx in New York  
7 City on January 18, 1955 and settled in Chicago in the late  
8 1970s; and

9           WHEREAS, Known as "The Godfather of House Music", Frankie  
10 Knuckles played an important role in developing and  
11 popularizing house music in Chicago during the 1980s when the  
12 genre was in its infancy; and

13           WHEREAS, Frankie Knuckles began working as a DJ, playing  
14 soul, disco, and R&B at The Continental Baths in New York; he  
15 started playing at the Warehouse club in Chicago when it opened  
16 in 1977; in 1982, he opened his own club in Chicago, The Power  
17 Plant; following its closure in 1987, he played in the United  
18 Kingdom where Chicago house artists were in high demand;  
19 throughout the 1990s and later years, he continued to remix  
20 music and record his own albums, "Beyond the Mix" and "A New  
21 Reality"; and

1           WHEREAS, Frankie Knuckles won the 1997 Grammy Award for  
2           Remixer of the Year, Non-Classical and he was inducted into the  
3           Dance Music Hall of Fame for his achievements as a DJ on  
4           September 19, 2005; and

5           WHEREAS, Spearheaded by then-Illinois State Senator Barack  
6           Obama, the City of Chicago declared August 25, 2004 as "Frankie  
7           Knuckles Day" and renamed a stretch of street where the old  
8           Warehouse once stood as "Frankie Knuckles Way"; therefore, be  
9           it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11           NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12           we mourn the passing of Frank Warren "Frankie" Knuckles, Jr.,  
13           and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and  
14           all who knew and loved him; and be it further

15           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16           presented to the family of Frankie Knuckles as an expression of  
17           our deepest sympathy.