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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 James B. "Tiny" Blanton III of Chicago, who passed away on January 19, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III was born on February 6, 1949, in Knoxville, Tennessee, to Martha and James Blanton Jr.; he graduated from Austin High School in 1967, Knoxville College in 1971, and the University of Tennessee in 1973 with a master's degree in business administration; he married Emily Blanton on December 25, 1976; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III worked in the Alpha Phi Alpha National Headquarters for more than 21 years, 17 of those in the position of executive director; he served as the president for Chicago Youth and Community Services and BECOM Inc. of Chicago; he was involved in the PHA family, North Star Lodge #1, Pride of Hiram Ct #55, LCOP, Talma Chapter #2, Arabic Ct #44, Knights Templar, Commandery, Western Consistory #28, and Holy Royal Arch; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III received many honorary listings throughout his life including Who's Who in America and Outstanding Community Leaders of America; and

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1 WHEREAS, James Blanton III was preceded in death by his
2 parents; and

3 WHEREAS, James Blanton III is survived by his wife of 36
4 years, Emily; his sons, Joseph (Tressy), Sidney, and James IV
5 (Chris); his grandchildren, Dewayne, Andrea, Darius, Avery,
6 and Jo Via; his sisters, Emily B. Mathis, Rose B. Davis, and
7 Paulette B. Herbin; his brother, Michael W. Blanton; his
8 sisters-in-law, Jo Ann (Larry) Davis and Lia Via (Henry) Clark;
9 his brother-in-law, Romia Woods; and a host of nieces, nephews,
10 great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews,
11 cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
14 James Blanton III, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
15 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of James Blanton III as an expression
19 of our deepest sympathy.