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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 Pearline Ruby (nee Jones) Cunigan; and

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WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan was born in Memphis, Tennessee on August 5, 1921 to Leroy, Sr. and Hattie Jones; at the age of 8, she and her family settled in Chicago; she graduated from Felsenthal Elementary School in 1935 and from Wendell Phillips Academy High School in 1939; she studied at Washburne Trade School, Woodrow Wilson Junior College, Roosevelt University, and Central YMCA College; in 1948, she married Donald Nolan; her first marriage ended and she married Jacey Cunigan on September 5, 1975; and

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WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan worked for 30 years for Maremont Automotives, where she served as treasurer of its credit union and as a union representative; she later worked in a clerical capacity for the Chicago Office of the Veterans Administration; she was also an administrative assistant to the late Illinois State Senator Margaret Smith; while working in Senator Smith's office she became friends with Sandra Douglas and Felton Mitchell and remained close to them until her passing; and

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WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan was baptized at the age of 13 and was active in the church throughout her life; she was a charter

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1 member of Bethsaida Missionary Baptist Church in August of
2 1967; she served as the first financial secretary, member of
3 the Margaret Smith Circle, member of the Phoebe Circle of the
4 Missionary Department, Sunday school teacher, member of the
5 Board of Christian Education, member of the Baptist Training
6 Union, instructor of Religious Education, and supervisor of the
7 Children's Church Work Department; she directed hundreds of
8 children's programs and chaired many milestone events for the
9 church, including anniversary celebrations, fashion shows,
10 "3:30 programs", and trailblazing luncheons and dinners for
11 fundraising efforts; she developed weekly church bulletins,
12 certificates, posters, banners, and program booklets; her
13 Sunday outfits, with coordinating hats, were the envy of every
14 church lady's eye; and

15 WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan was a member of the Bella Donna
16 Social Club for over 50 years; she enjoyed planning and giving
17 parties, cooking, bowling, ballroom dancing, singing, love
18 stories, and daily talks on the phone with her brother; and

19 WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan was preceded in death by her
20 parents and her husband; and

21 WHEREAS, Pearline Cunigan is survived by her brother, Leroy
22 Jones, Jr.; her niece and goddaughter, Linda Mitchell (Richard,
23 Sr.); nieces, Debra Milton (Arlester, Sr.), Yvonne Raymond,

1 Carolyn Hopkins (Darnell), and Janice Wilson; nephews, Kenneth
2 Fletcher, Daniel Fletcher (Delvetta), David Fletcher
3 (Josephine), George Wilson (Valerie), and Benjamin Clark
4 (Karen); many dear and life-long friends; her church family of
5 Bethsaida Missionary Baptist Church; and a host of other
6 relatives and friends; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
9 Pearline Ruby Cunigan, and extend our sincere condolences to
10 her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Pearline Cunigan as an expression of
14 our deepest sympathy.