



SR1917

LRB099 21994 GRL 49091 r

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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 Estella "Stella" Smith, who passed away on May 16, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Estella Smith was born on December 30, 1937 in Minter City, Mississippi; her parents were Eugene and Susie Mae Williams; she moved with her family to Chicago in 1940 when she was three years old; she married Benjamin "BJ" Smith in 1959; and

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WHEREAS, Estella Smith attended Raymond Elementary School and Wendell Phillips High School; and

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WHEREAS, Estella Smith was the owner and managing operator of the Historic Queen of the Sea Restaurant on the south side of Chicago; for more than 30 years, she provided employment and opportunities to many young men and women in the community, often giving them the second chance they could not find anywhere else; and

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WHEREAS, Estella Smith was baptized at Greater Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as an usher for many dedicated years; she later became a member of the New Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church; and

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1           WHEREAS, Estella Smith often cooked and provided meals for  
2 neighbors and those less fortunate; she loved to cook, nurture,  
3 and entertain; she also enjoyed spending time with her family;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Estella Smith was preceded in death by her  
6 parents; her children, Valerie and Cheryl; her siblings,  
7 Robert, Stevie, and Raymond; her grandson, Eric; and her  
8 great-grandchild, Ma'hari; and

9           WHEREAS, Estella Smith is survived by her children, Helen,  
10 Mary Ann (Rev. Mitchell Bryant), Benjamin, Jr., and Anthony;  
11 her siblings, Hattie (Lott Cherry), Eugene (Darcelle), and  
12 Michael; her grandchildren, Erica (Rev. Scottie Williams),  
13 Tameca (Andre), Alecia (Jamaal), Angel, Chante, Monica,  
14 Antesha, and Anthony, Jr.; her great-grandchildren: Jasmine,  
15 Asha, Kayla, Olivia, Anthony III, Miracle, Anaegionna, Malik,  
16 and La'coreion; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends;  
17 therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with her  
20 family and friends, mourn the passing of Estella "Stella"  
21 Smith; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Estella Smith as an expression of  
3 our sympathy.