

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, THE members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to recognized milestone events in  
4 the lives of the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Lutrelle "Lu"  
6 Palmer is retiring from a career of service to the  
7 African-American community; and

8 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer was born on March 28, 1922 in  
9 Newport News, Virginia, where he received his elementary and  
10 high school education; he earned his Bachelor's Degree in  
11 Journalism from Virginia Union University in 1942, his  
12 Master's Degree from Syracuse University in 1947, and his  
13 Ph.D. in Media: Mass Communications from Iowa State  
14 University in 1955; he holds a honorary Doctor of Human  
15 Letters Degree from St. Martin's College and Seminary; and

16 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer has led an extensive career in  
17 journalism; he served as a reporter for the Chicago Defender,  
18 the Chicago Courier, the Chicago American, and the Chicago  
19 Daily News, where he also served as a syndicated columnist,  
20 and as editor for the Tri-State Defender, a newspaper based  
21 in Nashville, Tennessee; he was the founder, editor, and  
22 publisher for the Black X-Press Info-Paper in Chicago from  
23 1971 to 1974; and he was a recruiter, organizer and preceptor  
24 for the Associated Colleges of the Midwest from 1970 until  
25 1990; and

26 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer's articles and columns are read  
27 by thousands of people in mass media newspapers; his  
28 commentaries can be heard on "Lu's Notebook" on Chicago radio  
29 stations WVON, WBEE, and WJPC, and on his talk show "On  
30 Target" where he has served as host from 1983 to the present  
31 day; prior to his radio experience, Mr. Palmer was the writer  
32 and editorial director for Congressman Ralph Metcalfe from

1 the 1970s to the 1980s, and served as a public relations  
2 liasion at Michael Reese Hospital; and

3 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer has conducted several seminars  
4 and participated in workshops all over the country where he  
5 has transmitted powerful images for enrichment and the  
6 uplifting of African Americans; he has served as a leader in  
7 the Chicago African-American community and fought against  
8 many strong issues such as police brutality, wrongful  
9 military draft of African Americans, and the overcrowding of  
10 schools in the African-American community; Mr. Palmer led a  
11 historic march in 1981 in a successful effort that led to the  
12 election of Chicago's first African-American mayor, Harold  
13 Washington; his other leadership roles have been as founder  
14 of the Black Business Network, founder of the Chicago Black  
15 United Communities in 1979 to the present day, founder of the  
16 Black Independent Political Organization from 1981 to the  
17 present day; and as chairman of the Extended Services Program  
18 for the Group Living Facilities for Boys from 1998 to the  
19 present day; and

20 WHEREAS, During his career, Lutrelle Palmer has received  
21 numerous merit and honorary awards that include the Lu's  
22 Notebook Award for "10 years Outstanding "Community Service  
23 from 1970-1980", the Kuumba Liberation Award in 1983, the  
24 Proclamation of Unity Award in 1976, the Outstanding  
25 Community Service Award in 1981, the Journalistic Excellence  
26 Award from the National Conference of Black Lawyers in 1977,  
27 the Unity Awards in Media in 1980, the Community Service  
28 Award in 1980, the Outstanding Service/Community Information  
29 Award in 1985, an induction into the Black Press Hall of  
30 Fame, the Childrens Life Enrichment/Jean Baptiste DuSable  
31 Award Award in 1997, the Saviors Day Appreciation Award from  
32 the Nation of Islam in 1991, the Garvey-Muhhammad-King Award  
33 in 1991, the Hero & Leadership Award, the African Community

1 Award in 1983, and the Community Service Award 29th Ward  
2 People's Assembly in 1981; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition Lutrelle Palmer has been the  
4 recipient of the Outstanding Service Award from Grambling  
5 State University Alumni Association in 1983, the Par  
6 Excellence/Journalism Achievement Award from the Coalition of  
7 Community Action in 1985, the Thank You Picture Plaque from  
8 Nelson Mandela and the African National Conference in 1990,  
9 the Frederick Douglas Award in 1988, the Black Achievement  
10 Against the Odds Award from Bell Laboratories in 1982, the  
11 Jomo Kenyatta Award for Political Activism in 1994, the  
12 Chicago State University Black Writers' Hall of Fame in 1999,  
13 and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the "Final Call"  
14 Newspaper in 1999; and

15 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer is looking forward to life after  
16 his retirement with his wife, Jorja Palmer, his six children,  
17 and five grandchildren; and

18 WHEREAS, Lutrelle Palmer's is a legend in  
19 African-American life; the impact of his leadership and  
20 commitment have led to a powerful enrichment of the  
21 African-American community; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
23 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
24 we congratulate Lutrelle Palmer on his retirement from a  
25 lifetime career of service and leadership to Chicago's  
26 African-American community, and we wish him well in all of  
27 his future endeavors; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
29 presented to Lutrelle Palmer an an expression of our esteem.