

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to express their sincere condolences to  
4 the family and friends of Charlie Soo, who recently passed  
5 away; and

6 WHEREAS, Charlie Soo was known as "The Mayor of Argyle"  
7 for his hard work and activism in the Asian American  
8 community; Mr. Soo was the director of the Asian American  
9 Small Businessman Association of Chicago, where he worked on  
10 many needs of the community, including licensing, special  
11 assessments, curbs and gutters, and other items of concern;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Charlie Soo was born in 1945 in Hawaii to  
14 immigrant Chinese parents from Malaysia; he studied at the  
15 College of Emporia in Kansas for his bachelor's degree; he  
16 attended the University of Illinois in Chicago for graduate  
17 studies and eventually received his master's degree from  
18 Roosevelt University; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Soo served on the Community Development  
20 Advisory Committee and the Illinois Economic Development  
21 Commission; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Soo became a fixture on Argyle Street in the  
23 late 1970s, in the area known as New Chinatown; he worked to  
24 have the Chicago Transit Authority invest in a \$250,000  
25 renovation of the New Chinatown station, which was decorated  
26 with pagoda-style features and bright colors; and

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Soo arranged "Taste of Argyle," which was  
28 attended by the late Mayor Harold Washington, Mayor Jane  
29 Byrne, and current Mayor Richard Daley; he worked to attract  
30 businesses and promote their efforts and helped in community  
31 policing efforts; and

1           WHEREAS, The passing of the "Mayor of Argyle" Charlie  
2           Soo, will be deeply felt by his many friends and the people  
3           whose lives he touched; therefore, be it

4           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5           NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
6           we mourn the passing of Charlie Soo; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8           presented to the Asian American Small Businessman Association  
9           of Chicago in his honor.