

1

## SENATE RESOLUTION

2

3

4

5

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to express our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of the Reverend Doctor Clarence Clarke, who passed away on August 29, 2002; and

6

7

8

WHEREAS, The Reverend Doctor Clarence Clarke was born on July 4, 1913 in Fairhope, Alabama to the union of Will and Rebecca Clarke; and

9

10

11

12

13

WHEREAS, Reverend Clark was educated in the public school of Fairhope; at the age of seventeen, he was baptized and appointed as a young missionary in the Christian Valley Baptist Church of Fairhope; in 1932, he was called into the Ministry; and

14

15

16

17

WHEREAS, Reverend Clarke was a resident of North Chicago for 52 years; he united with First Corinthian Baptist Church, where he became the assistant to Reverend James Porter for seven years; and

18

19

20

21

WHEREAS, Reverend Clarke was the founder and Pastor of Christian Valley Baptist Church for 39 years; upon retiring for a short period of time, he served as pastor of Christian Valley Baptist in Fairhope, Alabama for five years; and

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

WHEREAS, Reverend Clarke graduated from the Easonian Baptist Seminary of Birmingham, Alabama; he attended the Chicago Baptist Institute and the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago; he was an active member of the Civil Rights Movement led by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and a lifetime member of the NAACP; he has been a voice of reason in North Chicago fighting for the rights of humankind, the poor, and the neglected; he is one of the founding members of the North Shore Ministers Alliance; and

31

WHEREAS, Reverend Clarke receive the most influential

1 Black American Award of Lake County twice in his life; he was  
2 active in numerous religious organizations; he was regarded  
3 as the oldest Pastor preaching the word of God in Lake  
4 County; and

5 WHEREAS, Twenty-Fourth Place in North Chicago was renamed  
6 as Reverend Clarence Clarke Drive in his honor; and

7 WHEREAS, The passing of the Reverend Doctor Clarence  
8 Clarke will be deeply felt by all who knew and loved him,  
9 especially his wife of 64 years, Fannie P. Clarke; his  
10 brother, L.D. Clarke; his niece, Jean Smith; his nephews,  
11 Joseph Alphonse (wife, Celestine) Clarke, Frank Clarke, and  
12 Willie Thompson; his cousin, Rebecca Charles; his friend,  
13 Lizzie Borden; and a host of other relatives and friends;  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the death of  
17 the Reverend Doctor Clarence Clarke of North Chicago; and be  
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of the Reverend Doctor Clarence  
21 Clarke with our sincere condolences.