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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of James L. Heavens of East St. Louis on January 25, 2005; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Clifton, Mississippi on September 23, 1923 to the union of Conner Ree (Mary Hughes) Heavens; he was the oldest child of three children born to this union, two of whom preceded him in death, Conner Ree Heavens, II and Rt. Lt Colonel Josephus Heavens; and

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WHEREAS, He received his formal education from the Brighton Public School District in Brighton, Alabama and was a member of the First Baptist Church; after graduation from high school, he relocated to East St. Louis and obtained employment with Swift & Company as a certified butcher; his highest career accomplishment was when he was elected as the first black Vice-President and later President of Local 78 Amalgated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen of N.A. AFL-CIO; and

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WHEREAS, He married Margie Vaught and joined the St. Paul Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon and Sunday School reviewer; and

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WHEREAS, The passing of James L. Heavens is felt by all who knew and loved him, especially his devoted wife, Margie; his son, Levester (Hethalene) Heavens; his grandchildren, Jerome (Patti) Heavens, Crystal Heavens, and Jimmie Heavens; his great-grandchildren, Dameion (Kimberly) Heavens, Jerome Heavens, II, Nakeya Mosby, Christian Heavens, and Tiffany Heavens; his sister-in-law, Jean E. Heavens; his aunt, Mamie Hughes; his special friends, Lucille Rayford, Ernestine Rives, and Menola Upshaw; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends; therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 James L. Heavens and we extend our sincerest condolences to his
4 family, friends, and community; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest
7 sympathy.