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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Ezekiel "Zeke" Johnson of Chicago on Friday, May 5, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Montgomery, Alabama, and moved to Chicago with his mother, Mattie Ross, when he was a boy; he graduated from Dunbar High School and joined the police department; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson spent more than 30 years on the police force, retiring as a sergeant in the late 1980s; at the time of his retirement, he was detailed to the mayor's office, primarily working on the second floor of City Hall, where the aldermen's offices are located; he then went to work for the streets and sanitation department until he retired last year; and

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WHEREAS, He was a devoted volunteer in the 8th Ward Regular Democratic Organization; it was through this group that he met his wife, Michelle Harris; they were married in 1990; he had previously been a member of the 3rd Ward organization; and

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WHEREAS, He enjoyed telling jokes and teasing friends, but he also carried a quiet dignity about him; he was known to family and friends for his loyalty and generosity; and

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WHEREAS, The passing of Ezekiel "Zeke" Johnson has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Michelle; his son, Andre; his daughters, Angela Johnson and Denice Simon; his sister, Gladys Pruitt; and his six grandchildren; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

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1 Ezekiel "Zeke" Johnson, and we extend our sincere condolences
2 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
3 it further

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