



HR1629

LRB095 23102 KXB 53723 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of William  
4 E. Brazley of Olympia Fields, who passed away November 8, 2008;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Architect William E. Brazley Jr. left his mark on  
7 the skyline of Chicago, the suburbs and O'Hare Airport, but one  
8 of his proudest moments was when he stepped on the golf course  
9 at Olympia Fields Country Club in 1992; Mr. Brazley and Eric  
10 Johnson, the former head of Johnson Products Company, were the  
11 first two African Americans voted into the old-line country  
12 club by the membership; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Brazley started William E. Brazley &  
14 Associates Ltd., a Matteson architectural company, with his  
15 wife, Peggy, in 1975; they built the company into a one of the  
16 largest minority-owned architectural firms in the Midwest,  
17 with more than 40 employees and two additional offices; the  
18 company completed more than 500 projects during its 30-year  
19 history; and

20           WHEREAS, In addition, the firm designed and built the \$50  
21 million joint cargo facility at O'Hare Airport for Lufthansa  
22 and Air France Airlines, the \$40 million convocation center at

1 Chicago State University, and the Maywood public works  
2 facility, as well as numerous schools, churches, and  
3 educational municipal buildings in the Chicago area, Michigan,  
4 and Indiana; and

5 WHEREAS, The company also worked with other builders on  
6 major ventures including the McCormick Place Annex, the United  
7 Terminal at O'Hare, Navy Pier expansion, and the modernization  
8 of Cook County Hospital; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Brazley was a graduate of Thornton High School  
10 in Harvey and Purdue University and did advanced work at  
11 Massachusetts Institute of Technology; before starting his  
12 firm he was director of facilities management and assistant  
13 budget director at Governors State University; and

14 WHEREAS, He was an accomplished chef who was proud of his  
15 gumbo; he had an extensive outdoor kitchen that was once  
16 featured on a home and garden television show; and

17 WHEREAS, William Brazley is survived by his wife, Peggy;  
18 his two sons, Kerry and Kendall; five grandchildren; and his  
19 Goddaughter, Bettie Lewis; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of  
2 William Brazley; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to the family of William E. Brazley as a symbol of  
5 our sincere sympathy.