

## 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 Linda Collins, who passed away on  
5 January 18, 2002; and

6 WHEREAS, Linda Collins, who was diagnosed with  
7 sickle-cell anemia at age 5, was a dedicated activist who  
8 sought better treatments for patients suffering from  
9 sickle-cell anemia; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Collins began her work as a student at  
11 Chicago State University, where she studied public  
12 administration and public policy and founded a support group  
13 on campus for people with sickle-cell anemia, a disease that  
14 alters the shape and reduces the number of red blood cells,  
15 depriving the body of oxygen; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Collins later worked with State lawmakers to  
17 draw public attention to the disease, holding educational  
18 forums, galas and campaigns; in 1984 the Illinois attorney  
19 general appointed her to the Disabled Person Advocacy Board,  
20 and she helped draft the Americans with Disabilities Act,  
21 which became law in 1990; and

22 WHEREAS, Also in 1990, Ms. Collins founded a  
23 not-for-profit organization now known as the Have a Heart for  
24 Sickle-Cell Anemia Foundation to promote awareness and  
25 provide support to people who have the disease and their  
26 families; and

27 WHEREAS, In 2001, Ms. Collins successfully lobbied the  
28 Illinois General Assembly for a \$1.9 million grant for a  
29 sickle-cell research lab and treatment center at the  
30 University of Illinois at Chicago; and

31 WHEREAS, Linda Collins was known as a person who could

1 really get other people to come on board; she was a good  
2 networker and brought the sickle-cell anemia disease into the  
3 public like few people could do; her main goal was to raise  
4 money for research; and

5 WHEREAS, The passing of Linda Collins will be deeply felt  
6 by all who knew and loved her, especially her children,  
7 JeRome Williams and Andriana Collins; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
10 we mourn, along with all who knew her, the death of Linda  
11 Collins of Chicago, Illinois; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family of Linda Collins with our sincere  
14 condolences.