



HR0483

LRB104 15571 LAW 28737 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Yolanda Ngini Orange-Berry, who passed away on September 13, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry was born to Guy Orange Jr. and Mabel Orange on November 17, 1976; in her youth, she was a member of The Soul Children of Chicago, through which she and her voice ministered to others; she attended Mark Sheridan Math & Science Academy in Chicago, and she later became a member of the National Honor Society; she graduated from Lindblom Technical High School in 1994; she attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana for two years; during this time, she welcomed her daughter, Donnisha Lanaee'; she continued her education, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Illinois Chicago in 1999; she later obtained a Master of Science in Clinical Counseling from Eastern Illinois University in 2006; she married Deon Berry Sr. on September 6, 2008, and they had one son, Deon Berry Jr.; and

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WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry, throughout her career, served as a caseworker with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the Teen Parenting Service Network (TSPN), Ada S. McKinley Services, and her own

1 private practice, Learning the Unknown; she also operated a
2 Generational Anointed apparel business and served as a board
3 member of Reclaiming Mind Therapy & Wellness and TEDx Talks,
4 where she worked tirelessly to provide guidance, hope, and
5 stability to those in need; and

6 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry was an advocate who spoke on
7 mental illness and her experience as a mother of an autistic
8 child; she led a weekly Facebook live event, YOB Lunch... All
9 Things Mental Health, covering mental health and suicide
10 prevention; she further dedicated herself as a mental crisis
11 case manager, licensed professional counselor (LPC), at the ER
12 department of Endeavor Health; as a LPC, she specialized in
13 cognitive behavioral therapy, trauma-informed care, anxiety,
14 depression, and crisis intervention services; and

15 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry further served her community
16 as a mentor, advocate, and trusted guide, assisting the youth
17 and families through educational advocacy, health prevention,
18 training and development programs, and leading groups focused
19 on sportsmanship and psychoeducation; and

20 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry was committed to her faith
21 and worshipped with many congregations, including First
22 Steadfast Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Alpha & Omega
23 Church of Jesus in Champaign, Apostolic Faith Church in

1 Chicago, and her current church, Powerhouse in Posen; and

2 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry, known affectionately as
3 "Yogi", was a devoted wife, mother, daughter, counselor, and
4 friend who loved singing, crafting, sewing, attending
5 concerts, mentoring others, and making memories with family
6 and friends; she will be remembered as a woman of faith,
7 strength, and unconditional love; and

8 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry was preceded in death by her
9 father; her grandmothers, Elouise Nethery and Mildred Orange;
10 and her grandfather, Guy Orange Sr.; and

11 WHEREAS, Yolanda Orange-Berry is survived by her husband,
12 Deon Berry Sr.; her children, Donnisha (Darnell) Thorns and
13 Deon Berry Jr.; her bonus daughter, Delyssa Berry; her mother;
14 her sister, Christel Orange; and a host of extended family,
15 friends, and colleagues; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we mourn the passing of Yolanda Ngini Orange-Berry and extend
19 our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who
20 knew and loved her; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Yolanda Orange-Berry as an
2 expression of our deepest sympathy.