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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Jojo Baby was a foundational and influential
3 figure in the Chicago LGBTQ arts and nightlife scene for over
4 three decades, establishing a lasting legacy as a visual
5 artist, drag performer, doll maker, and hairdresser; and

6 WHEREAS, Born and raised in Chicago, Jojo Baby began their
7 career in the late 1980s and quickly rose to prominence due to
8 a singular, transformative artistic vision that blended
9 fashion, theater, and elaborate makeup artistry, setting a
10 high standard for creativity in drag; and

11 WHEREAS, Jojo Baby gained renown for their innovative
12 approach, acting as a crucial bridge between traditional
13 female impersonation and modern, avant-garde performance art,
14 profoundly influencing generations of younger drag performers,
15 artists, and queer youth in Chicago and beyond; and

16 WHEREAS, Throughout their career, Jojo Baby utilized their
17 platform not only for entertainment but also as a powerful
18 force for community building, serving as a dedicated mentor to
19 countless aspiring artists and contributing to various
20 philanthropic efforts, including HIV/AIDS awareness and LGBTQ
21 advocacy; and

1 WHEREAS, Jojo Baby's unwavering commitment to authenticity
2 and self-expression provided a beacon of resilience and
3 creativity within Chicago's LGBTQ community, making them a
4 beloved and respected elder statesperson whose artistic
5 excellence garnered national and international recognition;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, In addition to their work in nightclubs, Jojo
8 Baby gained prominence for their work as a hairdresser,
9 including as a stylist for former Chicago Bulls player Dennis
10 Rodman, and as an artist who handmade dolls that were featured
11 in exhibitions across the world; and

12 WHEREAS, Jojo Baby's contributions to the cultural
13 landscape of Chicago, particularly within the Boystown and
14 greater queer community, are invaluable, reflecting the
15 diversity, strength, and pioneering spirit of the city;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we recognize Jojo Baby's artistic innovation and decades of
20 service to the LGBTQ community of Chicago; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we commend Jojo Baby for their integral
22 role in shaping the identity and artistic vibrancy of the

1 Illinois drag performance scene and for their unwavering
2 advocacy for diversity and inclusion.