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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to  
3 learn of the death of Jennifer Artis; and

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WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis was born to Richmond Artis and  
5 Bernice Overstreet in Savannah, Georgia on May 14, 1946; she  
6 received baptism in the Catholic church and was an honorary  
7 member of Victory Christian International Ministries; her  
8 family moved to Chicago when she was two years old, and she  
9 graduated from Marshall High School; and

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WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis was the Director of Community  
11 Services/Public Affairs for Franciscan St. James Hospital for  
12 20 years; she was a medical assistant at Michael Reese; in  
13 addition, she ran a free clinic at St. Basil in Chicago; she  
14 served on the advisory board for the South Suburban Cook County  
15 Bureau of Health Services and participated in the Cook County  
16 I/We Plan Community Assessment; she was a commissioner of the  
17 Cook County Commission on Women's Issues and a board member of  
18 the Southland Ministerial Health Network; she was on the  
19 advisory board of Catholic Charities; and

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WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis was instrumental in creating the  
21 Crossroads Coalition in 1977, a coalition of over 90  
22 participants representing community, faith-based, and civic

1 organizations, where she served as president; she founded the  
2 Southland Health Care Forum, a healthcare workforce training  
3 organization, and was the organization's chief executive  
4 officer; she helped establish the first free all volunteer  
5 health clinic in Englewood in 1982 and helped in the creation  
6 of federally qualified clinics, including LeClaire Courts  
7 Housing Development in Marquette Park in 1988 and the Family  
8 Health Society in 1996, a clinic developed for St. James and  
9 area Rotarians to address the issues of the working poor; and

10 WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis founded the Senior Provider  
11 Network in 2006 to address a host of senior issues and provide  
12 a forum for collaboration and resource referrals; she was  
13 involved with the Southland Chamber of Commerce and served on  
14 advisory boards for Prairie State College and Governors State  
15 University; she served on the board of the South Suburban  
16 Mayors and Managers Association; and

17 WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis was elected trustee for the Village  
18 of Richton Park in 2008; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2012, Jennifer Artis created the Southland  
20 Community Care Partners (SCCP) and served as its president; and

21 WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis received the Michael R. Monteleone  
22 Community Service Award in 2012 from Prairie State College; and

1           WHEREAS, Jennifer Artis is survived by her daughter, Joi  
2           Artis; her son, Joe Artis; her grandchildren, Jai Semaj  
3           Williams and Jia Milan Williams; her sister, Romona Artis; her  
4           brothers, Antonio Artis, Gregory Artis, Tommie Artis, and  
5           Ronald Artis; and numerous friends, families, colleagues, and  
6           mentees; therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
8           ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
9           Jennifer Artis and extend our sincere condolences to her  
10          family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it  
11          further

12          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13          presented to the family of Jennifer Artis as an expression of  
14          our deepest sympathy.