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LRB101 20465 ECR 70030 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Charlie Mae Brown Snowden, who passed away on January 8, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden was born to James Brown and Gertrude Vance Brown in Mound Bayou, Mississippi on November 12, 1923; at just three years old, she became a part of history as she and six million other African Americans traveled north in search of a better life during the Great Migration; and

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WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden graduated from DuSable High School in January of 1941; following graduation, Charlie Mae did several odd jobs, including work as a waitress and a hotel domestic; one day as she was walking home from work, she met John Willis Snowden; the two soon married and had five children; and

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WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden was devoted to Coppin Memorial AME church and served in a variety of capacities, including as a member of the Women's Chorus and the Chancel Choir and as a Sunday School Teacher; she was elected to the church's board of directors as a Steward and joined the Golden Agers of Coppin and the Excelsior's Club; the Excelsior's Club was one of the major fundraising arms of the church and organized many events,

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1 including the very successful annual fashion show, which  
2 Charlie Mae chaired on at least two occasion; and

3 WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden was involved as a parent  
4 volunteer in the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America,  
5 and the Blue Birds; she served on the Mother's Board of the  
6 Parkway Gardens Homes, the Women's Auxiliary of the Woodlawn  
7 Little League, and the Mother's Board of the Parkway Garden's  
8 Christian Church; and

9 WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden adored clothes and had an  
10 impeccable sense of style; for more than 36 years, she was  
11 employed at Saks Fifth Avenue where she received several  
12 awards, including the Employee of the Month and Master  
13 Performer as well as Letters of Appreciation for Dedication to  
14 Excellence; after she retired, she became a member of the 9:15  
15 Club, a club for retirees of Saks who obtain special privileges  
16 from the company; and

17 WHEREAS, A staunch union member, Charlie Mae Snowden served  
18 as an officer in the Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store  
19 Union (R.W.D.S.U.) of the AFL-CIO Local 291; and

20 WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden enjoyed visiting with friends  
21 and tirelessly serving her church; she delighted in watching  
22 her children raise families of their own and thoroughly loved

1 having her nine grandchildren over for weekend visits and  
2 attending their sporting events, recitals, school programs,  
3 graduations, and weddings; she loved to dance, listen to James  
4 Brown, watch NBA Basketball, and eat sweets; and

5 WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden was preceded in death by her  
6 daughter, JoAnn; daughter-in-law, Angela, grandson-in-law,  
7 Darryl, and her great-grandson, Roderick; and

8 WHEREAS, Charlie Mae Snowden is survived by her devoted  
9 children, John Jr. (Annie Mae), Gertrude, Charles, and  
10 Lawrence; her grandchildren, April, Darrin (Tyra), Kitwana,  
11 Nathalie (Michael), Tahirah, John III "John-John", Sylvia,  
12 Lydia (Royce), and Charles II; her great-grandchildren,  
13 Robert, Brandon (Maddy), Julian, Kameela, Kaliah, Nayla,  
14 Darryl Jr. "DJ", Nyla, Tyla, Mason, and Harrison; her  
15 great-great-grandchildren, Kevin, Kev'ron, and Riley; her  
16 nieces and nephews; and her friends; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
19 Charlie Mae Brown Snowden and extend our sincere condolences to  
20 her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it  
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Charlie Mae Snowden as an expression  
2 of our deepest sympathy.