



HR0557

LRB103 37747 ECR 67875 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 Marcia Yvonne Lewis, who passed away on January 3, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis was born Leona Oliver on August 16, 1946; she didn't know her parents or the place she was born, as her first foster parents changed her name soon after birth; as a young girl, she was adopted by Elmore and Otha Miles, an Army couple, and they welcomed her into a loving family with four siblings, Anthony, Denise, the late Timothy, and Regina; and

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WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis traveled the world with the Miles family; while they were stationed in Germany, her mother died, and the family returned to the United States; she was 15 years old, and although her father decided to return to Germany, she stayed behind in Chicago to live with her father's sister, Princetta; and

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WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis moved to California, and she had her first child, Rosslyn, in 1964; she returned to Chicago and gave birth to her second child, Jonathon Sr. in 1966; and

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WHEREAS, In the 1970s, Marcia Lewis met and married Phil Lewis, a WW II veteran and jitney driver, who became a beacon

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1 of stability for her and her children until his death in 1982;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis eventually moved to Peoria, and in
4 the early 1990s, she began taking in foster children, four of
5 whom she adopted; she cultivated loving spaces for her adopted
6 children, her biological children, and her many grandchildren;
7 her home was filled with her beautiful crafts, her son
8 Jonathon's art, and, at Christmas time, her festive holiday
9 decorations; and

10 WHEREAS, In her later years, Marcia Lewis developed a
11 loving community of close friends and neighbors at the Grand
12 Regency of Peoria, where she enjoyed good food, Grand Regency
13 gossip, and people watching at the facility's long winding
14 entrance; she was an abiding, listening ear during chats with
15 her sister, Denise, who called daily; and

16 WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis was preceded in death by her husband
17 and her son, Chauncie; and

18 WHEREAS, Marcia Lewis is survived by her children,
19 Jonathon Romain Sr. (Nikki), Rosslyn, Curtis, Loretia, and
20 Ladarius; her special children, Teonna Ware and Eric Edwards;
21 14 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; seven
22 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of cousins, nieces,

1 nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we mourn the passing of Marcia Yvonne Lewis and extend our
5 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
6 and loved her; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Marcia Lewis as an expression of our
9 deepest sympathy.