



SR0608

LRB103 34967 MST 64859 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 Orlantha N. "Ninette" Williams, who passed away on September 30, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams was born to Orlando Smith and Anna Walker Williams on July 29, 1958; her childhood was marked by the resounding sound of her laughter, and she carried that radiant spirit with her throughout her life; she was a beloved student at the Catholic all-girls high school, Unity High School, Class of 1976, located on the south side of Chicago in the Chatham community; she was a shining example of the Unity High School spirit; it was during her time at Unity that she formed enduring friendships and was known as "Orrie"; she left an indelible mark on her peers and teachers; her mother remarried Roosevelt Williams, who loved her and her mother deeply; and

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WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams excelled academically, setting a standard of excellence that inspired those around her; but it was not just her academic achievements that set her apart, it was her warm and caring personality that endeared her to everyone she met; and

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WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams touched the lives of many,

1 leaving a legacy of kindness, love, and joy; Christmas will
2 never be the same at the Garden Mission on Canal Street in
3 Chicago without her; she never wavered in wanting the women
4 and children of the Mission to experience a beautiful and
5 joyous Christmas, and she was always willing to make that
6 happen for them no matter what it took; and

7 WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams was a truly remarkable soul who
8 touched the lives of countless people with her boundless love,
9 infectious laughter, and unwavering positivity; she possessed
10 a rare and extraordinary gift, an immense capacity to love and
11 spread joy wherever she went; she truly understood the meaning
12 of love and the importance of a smile; she had an infectious
13 laugh that could light up even the darkest of days; her heart
14 was always open, and her smile was ever-present; and

15 WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams became a caregiver for many
16 elderly, and she loved them and cared for them as if they were
17 her own family; one of the most remarkable aspects of her life
18 was her unwavering commitment to others; she had a heart that
19 knew no bounds, always extending her love to those in need
20 regardless of her circumstances; and

21 WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams was preceded in death by her
22 father, Roosevelt Williams; her birth father, Orlando; and her
23 brother, Roosevelt Williams Jr.; and

1 WHEREAS, Orlantha Williams is survived by her niece,
2 Miranda "Noodle"; her uncle, Joe; her cousins, Lisa and
3 Marcena; and numerous other family members and friends;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
7 Orlantha N. "Ninette" Williams and extend our sincere
8 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
9 her; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Orlantha Williams as an expression
12 of our deepest sympathy.