



SR0841

LRB103 39773 MST 70292 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Nia Odeoti-Hassan; and

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WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan was born in 1948; and

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WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan exhibited exceptional
6 leadership within the City of Springfield and throughout the
7 State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan served as the policy and budget
9 analyst for the Illinois Senate from 1981 to 2017; during that
10 time, she became a trusted leader and mentor to countless
11 bipartisan members of the General Assembly and Capitol staff;
12 she served under five governors, four senate presidents, and
13 four speakers of the house; and

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WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan's dedication to healthcare,
15 women's rights, and the expansion of education and access to
16 politics remains unmatched; in 2001, she was an advocate for
17 the Halal Food Act to require food labeled Halal be prepared
18 according to Islamic Law; in 2009, she helped organize the
19 first Muslim Action Day at the Capitol; she also introduced
20 the Senate Page Program, allowing for high school and college
21 students to shadow state senators; and

1 WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan served as a Democratic precinct
2 committeewoman for nearly 20 years and was a member of the
3 Westside Democratic Club, now known as the Greater Springfield
4 Democrats; and

5 WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan's combined love for advocacy
6 and government earned her Golden member status in her
7 sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., with over 50 years
8 of service to the sorority's mission of service to all
9 mankind; she also served as the sorority's committee chair and
10 coordinator for the Illinois State Connection Committee
11 throughout three regional administrations; and

12 WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan's kindness, leadership, and
13 wisdom touched everyone within the radius of her communities
14 of faith, family, and friends; she exemplified leading with
15 integrity and intelligence in her professional life, her
16 political life, and her beloved sorority; and

17 WHEREAS, Nia Odeoti-Hassan's legacy lives on through her
18 daughter, Emma Hassan; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
21 Nia Odeoti-Hassan and extend our sincere condolences to her

1 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the family of Nia Odeoti-Hassan as an expression
5 of our deepest sympathy.