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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 William M. Patterson, Ph.D., who passed away on April 2, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson, a native of Urbana, earned his Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC); and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson worked as a clinical associate professor in the School of Music, College of Fine & Applied Arts at UIUC, and he also served as an adjunct lecturer in the School of Information Sciences and the College of Engineering's Technology Entrepreneurship Center; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson was heavily involved with Illinois Public Media, serving on the Community Advisory Board for Illinois Soul, the Black-focused radio service from Illinois Public Media that launched in February 2024; he also co-created Illinois Public Media's Youth Media Workshop, providing instruction to local Black youth on how to turn interviews with their elders into stories for WILL radio and television; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson served in many other positions

1 around the Champaign-Urbana area, including associate director
2 of the Bruce Nesbitt African American Cultural Center on the
3 UIUC campus and chief teen officer at the Don Moyer Boys and
4 Girls Club in Champaign; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson was the recipient of a number of
6 accolades; at the time of his passing, he was to receive the
7 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Champaign Urbana Schools
8 Foundation; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson, affectionately known as "Dr. P",
10 was an educator who worked tirelessly to bring STEAM (science,
11 technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) education to
12 under-resourced Black neighborhoods and to empower students to
13 tell their own stories through his Hip Hop Xpress Double Dutch
14 Boom Bus Innovation Lab & Data Center; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson will be remembered for his
16 contributions to youth education and the arts; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Patterson is survived by his wife, Lori Gold
18 Patterson; three children; a grandchild; and a sister;
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 William M. Patterson, Ph.D. and extend our sincere condolences
2 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Dr. Patterson as an expression of
6 our deepest sympathy.