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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of Katherine Flowers Shepherd on Wednesday, April 26, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, She was born in Inverness, Mississippi, on September 6, 1947, to Lewis M. Flowers, Sr., and Maple Stapleton Flowers; in 1950, the family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where Katherine attended the Indianapolis public schools and graduated from Shortridge High School; she enhanced her education by attending a local computer institute and earned a certification in information technology; and

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WHEREAS, She was baptized at the age of seven at the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church; she remained faithful to Tabernacle and was dutiful in her church works; she was a member of the Gospel Chorus and served as a Youth Director/Coordinator, a teacher of Vacation Bible School, and advisor and creator of many fundraising projects at the church; she was a charter member of the Oliver Youth Choir; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Shepherd was currently in the position of President of the Missionary Society, Sunday School Teacher, and was a member of the Nurses; she assisted Pastor Bailey as Personal/Administrator in the monthly staff meetings and worked as Financial Secretary of the Union District Association; and

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WHEREAS, She will always be remembered as one who loved reading the Word and teaching in Sunday school; she was always ready and able to assist in any area where she was needed at the church; and

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WHEREAS, On June 21, 1968, Katherine married Willie James Shepherd and their union spanned over 38 years; and

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1 WHEREAS, She will be sadly missed by her family and
2 friends; those who knew her well can verify that she would
3 speak what was in her heart; she was a strong influence in her
4 family and can never be replaced; and

5 WHEREAS, After the passing of her sister, Barbara, she
6 became the surrogate mother of her sister's daughter, Cynthia,
7 and her children; and

8 WHEREAS, Preceding her in death were two brothers, Herman
9 and Lewis Flowers, Jr., and one sister, Barbara Montgomery; and

10 WHEREAS, The passing of Katherine Flowers Shepherd has been
11 deeply felt by many, especially her husband, Willie James
12 Shepherd; her sons, Kevin and Jamie Shepherd; her surrogate
13 daughter, Cynthia Montgomery; her father, Lewis M. Flowers
14 (Jewell); her grandchildren, Ke'vanna and Kynnedi Shepherd;
15 her surrogate grandchildren, Jaylin, Janiyah, and Jazlynn; her
16 sisters, Pastor Mary L. Guthrie and Marilyn Wadlington; her
17 brothers, Willie Jones, Jr., (Essie), Randy Wadlington
18 (Debbie), and Pastor David K. Flowers (Summer); and her nieces,
19 nephews, uncles, aunts, cousins, relatives, many friends, and
20 her Tabernacle Church Family; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
23 we mourn the passing of Katherine Flowers Shepherd, and we
24 extend our deepest sympathy to her family, friends, and all who
25 knew and loved her; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
27 presented to her family as an expression of our sincerest
28 condolences.