



HR1461

LRB096 24210 KXB 43654 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Reverend  
4 Clara Jean McKinney Puckett of Chicago, who passed away on  
5 October 18, 2010; and

6           WHEREAS, She was born on August 28, 1938, in Memphis,  
7 Tennessee, to Clarence and Mattie Mae Smith; she was baptized  
8 at an early age; she attended White Station Grammar School and  
9 graduated from Manassas High School in Memphis; and

10           WHEREAS, She moved to Chicago and met her husband, Quentin  
11 Puckett; she attended Marion Business College and earned a  
12 degree in Medical Assistance; she earned an Associate of Arts  
13 degree from Olive Harvey College; she completed courses in  
14 Sociology and Psychology at Chicago State University; she held  
15 certificated in nutrition, food service, and sanitation from  
16 Olive Harvey College; she was a licensed beautician and pursued  
17 Cosmetology; through home study, she also obtained credentials  
18 in Physical Therapy; and

19           WHEREAS, She was a community liaison for All Chicago Focus  
20 Newspaper, and one of the pioneers who helped elect Harold  
21 Washington as Chicago's first black Mayor; she worked  
22 vigorously in the political campaigns to elect State

1 Representative Monique Davis and Congressman Danny K. Davis;  
2 she was a member of the Power Circle Congregation, where she  
3 also participated in the Writer's Guild and Praise Dance  
4 Ministry; she was a member of Quaker House and Brothers of the  
5 Elderly; she was known for her diligent service and longtime  
6 membership in the TAGers, an organization working on behalf of  
7 Chicago State University; she was a member and volunteer at  
8 Operation PUSH and a member of the Creation and Conservation of  
9 Wealth, Inc.; and

10 WHEREAS, She was devoted to community improvement and was  
11 an advocate for seniors; she worked with the Chicago Department  
12 on Aging and Disability; she started a Grand Parents Group  
13 dedicated to lighten the load of caring for grandchildren; she  
14 was active in the Girl Scouts of Chicago, a volunteer and  
15 supporter of the Meatchem Youth Center, and held office in the  
16 United Black Youth Council of America; and

17 WHEREAS, She was the co-host the radio talk show "Consumer  
18 Eye,"; she spoke on many occasions to groups; she started her  
19 company, Mattie's Caring Hands, a full-scale maid and  
20 maintenance service; she founded Universal Networking  
21 Consultants in 1982; she established the Think Tank Ministry  
22 and the College Care Package Program; she also taught arts and  
23 crafts while working as an assistant teacher at the St.  
24 Carthage Day Care and Woodlawn Day Care Centers; and

1           WHEREAS, Reverend Clara Puckett leaves behind her sons,  
2           Quitus and Quinshedrick; her daughter, Quintyra; her  
3           grandchildren, Nashid, Tariz, Musa, Jaheed, Nissan, and  
4           Tuneasha; her great-grandson, Jahzeel; her step-children,  
5           Charles, Victor, and Jackie; her nieces and nephews, a host of  
6           great nieces and great nephews; her brothers, Tony McKinney,  
7           Larry Smith, and Glenn Smith; her sisters, Pauline Washington  
8           and Leonia Pointer; her aunts, Bessie Jones, Margarine  
9           Robinson, Geneva Cook, Ernestine Coleman, and Ossie Moss; a  
10          host of cousins who enriched her life; her sister-in-law,  
11          Marcie Puckett; and her son-in-law, Darvin Williams; also, a  
12          tremendous extended family are left behind to reflect on the  
13          celebrated life of Reverend Clara Puckett; her daughters,  
14          Cassandra Scott, Gwendolyn Wells, Deborah Gray, Dorothea Drew,  
15          Oneva Scott, Nicole Watson, and Sharon Smith; her sons, Brian  
16          Smith and Herman Ward; her sisters, Mary Hooker, Claudia  
17          Ingram, Elizabeth Jacks, Doris Redic, Dee Ingram, Tracy Taylor,  
18          Tabatha (Taffica) White, and Gloria Seifullah; and her best  
19          friend, Dorothy Carpenter; and a host of friends and  
20          associates; therefore, be it

21               RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
22               NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
23               mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of  
24               Reverend Clara Jean McKinney Puckett; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Reverend Clara Jean McKinney Puckett  
3 as a symbol of our sincere sympathy.