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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 Kenneth H. Tate of Chicago, who passed away on January 21, 2009; and

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WHEREAS, Kenneth Tate was born on September 7, 1944 in Corpus Christi, Texas; he was the only child of Ferdie and Marchelee Tate; his family moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he graduated from Sumner High School; and

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WHEREAS, From 1964 to 1970, Kenneth Tate served in the United States Navy, where he was assigned to the VF 96 Fighter Squadron in San Diego, California; after his honorable discharge, he was employed for 17 years at General Motors; during that time, he became a loving father to his son, Marcus, and his daughter, Nikkea; and

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WHEREAS, Determined to make a career change after his time at GM, Kenneth Tate attended Lindenwood College, graduating with a Bachelor's in Business Administration in 1989; soon after, he became an auditor for the City of St. Louis; and

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WHEREAS, In 2000, Kenneth Tate moved to Chicago, where he was hired by the City of Chicago's Department of Human Services; he ascended through the ranks, attaining the position

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1 of Accountant IV; shortly after moving to Chicago, he met Dawn
2 Scarlett, whom he would eventually marry in July of 2008; and

3 WHEREAS, Kenneth Tate was an avid sports fan who had
4 excelled in high school football and enthusiastically kept up
5 with his hometown teams, the St. Louis Cardinals and Rams, even
6 after moving to Chicago; he was also an ardent fan of classic
7 soul and the Motown Sound; and

8 WHEREAS, Kenneth Tate is survived by his loving wife, Dawn;
9 his children, Marcus Epps and Nikkea; his parents, Ferdie and
10 Marchelee; his step-daughters, Samira Malik and Fatima (Craig)
11 Simmons; his step-grandchildren, Craig, Jr., and Taylor; and

12 WHEREAS, Kenneth Tate will be remembered by all who knew
13 and loved him as a charming, caring, and easygoing man whose
14 authentic personality endeared him to everyone he met;
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
18 his family and friends, the passing of Kenneth H. Tate; and be
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Kenneth H. Tate as an expression of

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1 our sympathy.