



HR1373

LRB097 23837 GRL 73077 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 Verna
4 Lisa Baker, who passed away on November 28, 2012; and

5 WHEREAS, Verna Baker was born on March 28, 1953, in
6 Chicago, and was raised in Robbins and Blue Island; her parents
7 were Bettie Jean and Joseph Donald Boyd; she married Larry D.
8 Baker on December 21, 1985; and

9 WHEREAS, Verna Baker graduated from Thomas J. Kellar Junior
10 High School in 1967; after graduating from Dwight D. Eisenhower
11 High School in 1971, she attended Moraine Valley Community
12 College in Palos Hills, where she received an associate degree
13 in 1973; after working various jobs, she desired to further her
14 education, and enrolled at St. Xavier University in Chicago,
15 where she received a bachelor's degree in speech and language
16 pathology in 1983; she earned her Master of Arts from Concordia
17 University in River Forest in 2000; she also enrolled in the
18 Doctoral Program at Northern Illinois University; and

19 WHEREAS, Verna Baker taught 5th grade at Bethel Christian
20 School and its Child Development Program; when the job of
21 Administrative Director of Bethel Educational Services became
22 available, she applied and was chosen by the Board of Directors

1 to fill the position; and

2 WHEREAS, Verna Baker served as a volunteer at Bethel New
3 Life and at Bethel Lutheran Church; from 2000 to 2003, she
4 served as an Assistant Professor of Education and Assistant
5 Director of the Office of Field Experience at Concordia
6 University in River Forest; she was recently employed at the
7 Chicago International Charter School by PYK Services as a
8 speech para-professional; she also choreographed the Robbins
9 Village Activity Guild Cotillion; and

10 WHEREAS, Verna Baker was baptized at the age of 5 at Good
11 Shepard Lutheran Church in Robbins, where she attended until
12 1985; during this time, she and her husband moved to the West
13 Side of Chicago and eventually joined Bethel Lutheran Church;
14 as a member of the church, she worked on every committee and
15 held many major positions in the church; she was a soloist in
16 the choir and worked with the youth of the church, Sunday
17 School, Confirmation, Vacation Bible School, Bible Study, and
18 the Christian Education Ministry until her passing; she also
19 gave occasional sermons at the church; she was also a board
20 member for Bethel New Life; and

21 WHEREAS, Verna Baker enjoyed photography, quilting,
22 sewing, catering, interior decorating, singing, writing, and
23 public speaking; she was also an excellent card player and

1 played Bid Whist regularly with family and friends; and

2 WHEREAS, Verna Baker was preceded in death by her mother,
3 Bettie Jean Boyd; her cousin, Toni D. Christmas; and her
4 lifelong friend, Mary Morgan Brown; and

5 WHEREAS, Verna Baker is survived by her devoted husband,
6 Larry D. Baker; her daughters, Cachet Joy Baker-Walker (James)
7 and Jasmine Janee' Baker; her stepson, Maurice Baker (Shaque);
8 her beloved grandchildren, Talia M. Baker, Ashante B. Baker,
9 Verlaina L. Baker, Anariah Walker, and Mariah Walker; her
10 father, Joseph Donald Boyd; her siblings, Steven A. Boyd, Jo
11 Anna M. Boyd, and Brenda S. Boyd; her sisters-in-law, Sandra L.
12 Santee and Claire Baker; her cousin, Arthur Raymond Jackson
13 (Joanna); her nephew and godson, Carey B. Boyd; her devoted
14 cousin and sister, Victoria Napolez; her faithful cousin, Damon
15 Knight; her loving friends, Amella Chambers-Little and Dennis
16 Hersey; the members of her church family; her devoted friends,
17 Deborah Williams, Ivory Banks, Keisha Banks, Roger Jones,
18 Terkeysa Clay Patterson; the children of Bethel Lutheran Church
19 and the Chicago International Charter School; her co-workers;
20 and her many other family members and friends; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
23 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of

1 Verna Lisa Baker; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the family of Verna Baker as an expression of our
4 sympathy.