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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 Sarah Sandra Hutchinson of Chicago, who recently passed away; and

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WHEREAS, Sarah Sandra Hutchinson (nee, Smith), the 7th child of Lloyd Gaston and Lucy Smith, was born in the Dutch West Indies Island of Aruba on February 19, 1939; she spent the first years of her life on this island paradise with her older siblings and parents; her father, who would be made Knight Commander After the Order of Orange-Nassau (the Royal House of The Netherlands), protected and managed the Lago Oil Refinery as its President, which was strategic to the Allied war effort; she and her family soon returned to their home in Manhasset, New York, where she completed her primary and high school career, excelling in academics as well as in music; and

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WHEREAS, In 1956, she was admitted to the prestigious Conservatory of Music at Oberlin University in Oberlin, Ohio, to begin her studies as a concert pianist; however, it became clear that her generous spirit called her to dedicate her life to helping others and she decided to change her major to Psychology, so that she could go on to study social work; she was active in a number of campus activities, including the campus chapter of the NAACP; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 1958, she met Eugene Hutchinson on a blind date
2 to Kenyon College; they courted for 2 years and were married on
3 August 27, 1960 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; she moved to Madison,
4 Wisconsin and worked at the University Hospital as a nurse's
5 aide, while her husband finished up law school at the
6 University of Wisconsin-Madison; and

7 WHEREAS, Soon after the couple's move to the Chicago
8 community of Hyde Park in 1962, Sarah began to work for the
9 Cook County Department of Public Aid; in 1965, she enrolled at
10 Loyola University to pursue a Masters of Social Work degree;
11 after completing her degree in 1967, she continued to work
12 professionally as a social worker in various roles; she worked
13 at the Department of Children and Family Services, Lutheran
14 Social Services, Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital, and finished
15 up her career at Grant/Lincoln Park Hospital; and

16 WHEREAS, Until 2007, she worked as a part-time fill-in
17 social worker at various Chicago-area hospitals; she was also
18 active in her Block Club as Secretary and donated to various
19 social causes and charities around the world; and

20 WHEREAS, She always looked for an opportunity to see the
21 world with family and her long-time friend, Elsie Shimm; her
22 last whirlwind tour took her on a cruise of the Caribbean,

1 where she was able to visit her birth-land of Aruba, and
2 celebrate her 50th wedding anniversary with her husband in
3 August of 2010; and

4 WHEREAS, Sarah Hutchinson was cherished and loved by many
5 friends and relatives whom she touched in countless ways
6 throughout the years; she leaves behind her husband, Eugene;
7 her brother, Gerry (Ellen); her sisters, Lucy and Marje; her
8 sons, Osei (Anita), Paul (Toi), Lloyd, and Jacob; her
9 grandchildren, Paul Jr., Camryn, Ryan, Tendaji, and Asha; her
10 cat, Tiger; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and
11 extended family around the globe; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
14 her family and friends, the passing of Sarah Hutchinson; and be
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Sarah Hutchinson as a symbol of our
18 sincere sympathy.