



HR0726

LRB098 17737 GRL 52855 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Black Mary for her work in keeping dusty music alive; and

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WHEREAS, Black Mary was born on April 14, 1941; she grew up on Maxwell Street and later moved to Cabrini Green in Chicago; she attended Marshall High School; and

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WHEREAS, Black Mary served as a registered nurse for 40 years; following her retirement, she continues to work part-time at a nursing facility; and

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WHEREAS, Black Mary was a member of the Dancettes; she later left that group to form the Original Old Timers, which she has maintained for many years; and

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WHEREAS, With the advent of disco in the 1970s, most establishments stopped playing dusty music; through great determination, Black Mary began to ask club owners to play dusty music; finding no club that would do so, she developed a beautiful dusty set every first Sunday of the month in locations throughout Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Thanks to Black Mary's persistence, dusty music

1 has seen a new renaissance, with "The World's Largest Stepping
2 Contest", "Steppin' at Club 7", "Can You Step with Me?", and
3 the Steppin' movie and play all being staged and/or filmed in
4 the City of Chicago; around 60 new steppers clubs have also
5 been opened in the Chicagoland area; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we congratulate Black Mary for her work in keeping dusty music
9 alive and wish her continued success and happiness in the
10 future; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Black Mary as a symbol of our esteem and respect.