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LRB099 23515 MST 50989 r

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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 William Garth Sr. of Chicago, who passed away on September 23, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth Sr. grew up in rural Bessemer, Alabama, one of 15 children; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth Sr. moved to Chicago and began working as a salesman at the Chicago Citizen papers, a weekly newspaper chain focusing on African-American communities; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth Sr. purchased the chain approximately 35 years ago and became CEO and publisher; the papers, with a circulation of about 121,000, constitute the largest black-owned chain in the Midwest; and

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WHEREAS, In 1996, William Garth Sr. was elected Chair of the 480-newspaper Illinois Press Association, becoming the country's first African-American chief of a statewide press organization; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth Sr. was a member of the Rainbow/PUSH board and publisher of PUSH magazine; he was a founding member of the Chatham Business Association; and

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1           WHEREAS, After the passing of his son, Quentis Bernard  
2           Garth, William Garth Sr. started a scholarship foundation in  
3           his name, which has dispensed more than \$1 million to  
4           college-bound students; and

5           WHEREAS, William Garth Sr. is survived by his son, William  
6           Darrell Garth Jr.; his daughter-in-law, Janice; his sisters,  
7           Geraldine Burgess, Orangie Garth, and Charlie Garth; his  
8           brothers, X Rashid, Robert Sr., Roosevelt, Jessie, Larry,  
9           Joseph, and Richard; three grandchildren; and seven  
10          great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

11          RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
12          ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
13          William Garth Sr., and extend our sincere condolences to his  
14          family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
15          further

16          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17          presented to the family of William Garth Sr. as an expression  
18          of our deepest sympathy.