



HR0015

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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 Sylvia  
4 Branch Washington, who passed away on January 11, 2013; and

5           WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington was born on March 4,  
6 1956; her parents were James and Leora Branch; she married  
7 Aaron Washington on July 11, 1987; and

8           WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington graduated from Dunbar  
9 High School in 1974; she subsequently attended Daley College to  
10 pursue an associate's degree; and

11           WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington worked at the Corps of  
12 Engineers, Continental Bank, and Heller Financial until she  
13 accepted a position as a part-time receptionist for Chicago  
14 18th Ward Alderman Thomas Murphy, where she served faithfully  
15 for 14 years; through her dedication to the 18th Ward, she  
16 later became the 40th Precinct captain and assistant to the  
17 Alderman; as assistant to the Alderman, her duties included  
18 taking complaints and taking city service and infrastructure  
19 requests from 18th Ward residents; and

20           WHEREAS, Upon the election of Chicago 18th Ward Alderman  
21 Lona Lane, Sylvia Branch Washington joined her staff and served

1 as Chief of Staff of the 18th Ward Alderman for 5 years;  
2 throughout her service with Alderman Lane, she worked on  
3 obtaining various infrastructure projects for the community,  
4 such as repairs to the streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and  
5 obtaining new street lights; she sat on the board of directors  
6 for Wrightwood Community Development Corporation and served as  
7 Commissioner for Southwest Guaranteed Home Equity; she worked  
8 closely with developers on planning new schools, dialysis  
9 centers, Ultra Foods stores, and restaurants; she also planned  
10 and scheduled the alderman's daily meetings; and

11 WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington as a member of Trinity  
12 United Church of Christ under the leadership of Pastor Otis  
13 Moss III; in her youth, she sang lead in the family choir, gave  
14 prophecy, and delivered sermons; and

15 WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington was preceded in death by  
16 her grandparents; her father and stepfather; her 2 brothers;  
17 and her sister; and

18 WHEREAS, Sylvia Branch Washington will be dearly missed by  
19 her loving family, which includes Leora Lockett, Aaron  
20 Washington, Aaron Branch (Deborah), Doretha Davis (Michael),  
21 Betty Sanders, Cynthia Smith, Shelia Jackson (Jack), Caryscine  
22 Branch (Juanita), Kevin Branch, Kenneth Branch, and  
23 Christopher Branch; her 29 nephews and nieces; and her many

1 great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of  
5 Sylvia Branch Washington; and be it further

6       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the family of Sylvia Branch Washington as an  
8 expression of our sympathy.