



HR0086

LRB098 07384 GRL 37448 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of James B. Blanton III; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III was born on February 6, 1949; his parents were Martha and James Blanton Jr.; he married Emily Blanton on December 25, 1976; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III was a native of Knoxville, Tennessee; he earned his high school diploma from Austin High School in 1967, his bachelor's degree in commerce from Knoxville College in 1971, and his master's degree in business administration from the University of Tennessee in 1973; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III dedicated his life to improving the world around him and making a difference that would strengthen the brotherhood of man; he supported numerous causes, including youth issues, the protection of civil rights for all, enhancing educational opportunities, leadership development, and developing innovative programs that would empower young men; and

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WHEREAS, James Blanton III served in Alpha Phi Alpha National Headquarters for more than 21 years, 17 of those years

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1 as the Executive Director; he served as the President for
2 Chicago Youth and Community Services and BECOM Inc. of Chicago;
3 he was a member of the PHA family, North Star Lodge #1, Pride
4 of Hiram Ct #55, LCOP, Talma Chapter #2, Arabic Ct #44, the
5 Knights Templar, Commandery, Western Consistory #28, and Holy
6 Royal Arch; he was also an active member of more than 20
7 fraternity investment groups; and

8 WHEREAS, James Blanton III was the recipient of over 10
9 honorary listings from such groups as Who's Who in America to
10 Outstanding Community Leaders of America; and

11 WHEREAS, James Blanton III was preceded in death by his
12 parents; and

13 WHEREAS, James Blanton III is survived by his loving wife
14 of 36 years, Emily; his sons, Joseph (Tressy), Sidney, and
15 James IV (Chris); his grandchildren, Dewayne, Andre, Darius,
16 Avery, and Jo Via; his sisters, Emily B. Mathis, Rose B. Davis
17 and Paulette B. Herbin; his brother, Michael W. Wanton; his
18 sisters-in-law, Jo Ann (Larry) Davis and Lia Via (Henry) Clark;
19 his brother-in-law, Romia Woods; and his many nieces, nephews,
20 great-nieces and great-nephews, great-great nieces and
21 great-great nephews, cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
3 James B. Blanton III; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of James Blanton III as an expression
6 of our sympathy.