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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are
3 saddened to learn of the death of William Garth, Sr., who
4 passed away on September 23, 2016 at the age of 79; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. was the guiding force behind
6 the largest black-owned, ABC-audited newspaper in the United
7 States; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. was the Chairman of the Chicago
9 Citizen Newspaper Group Inc. and Garthco, Inc., the founder and
10 chairman of the QBG Foundation, and the chairman of the Chatham
11 Business Association; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. began his career in publishing
13 at the Chicago Citizen Newspaper in 1969; he purchased the
14 Chatham Citizen, the Southend Citizen, and the Chicago Weekend
15 in 1980, and later added the South Suburban and the Hyde Park
16 editions; he also founded Garthco Publications, which
17 published PUSH Magazine, a bi-monthly national publication for
18 the Operation PUSH organization; and

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WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. became the first
20 African-American to be elected President of the Illinois Press
21 Association, the largest newspaper association in the State and

1 the Office Trade Organization for Illinois weekly and daily
2 newspapers; he also served on the IPA Board of the Government
3 Affairs Committee for 15 years; and

4 WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. was elected to be a stockholder
5 in the Cook County South Suburban Publishers Association; in
6 2009, he was elected to serve as Chairman of the Cook County
7 Publishers Association for 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. founded the Quentis Bernard
9 Garth Foundation, the benevolent arm of the Chicago Citizen
10 Newspaper which provides scholarships to disenfranchised inner
11 city youths in the Chicagoland area; to date, the foundation
12 has helped over 50 students and has disbursed over \$1.5 million
13 in scholarship awards; and

14 WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. was president of the Midwest
15 Region III of the National Newspaper Publishers Association
16 (NNPA) and the Region III Advertising Representative with the
17 NNPA; he served on the Transition Team for the Illinois
18 Department of Transportation's Dan Ryan Project; he was a board
19 member of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, a lifetime member of the
20 NAACP, and a member of the Chatham Lions Club; he was the
21 recipient of numerous local and national awards and honors and
22 was a torchbearer in Chicago during the 2002 Olympic Torch
23 Relay; and

1 WHEREAS, William Garth, Sr. is survived by his son,
2 Darrell; his daughter, Janice; his sisters, Geraldine,
3 Orangie, and Charlie; his brothers, X. Rashid, Robert Sr.,
4 Roosevelt, Jessie, Larry, Joseph, Richard, and Steven; his
5 granddaughters, Quinita and Savannah; his
6 great-granddaughters, Armonee, Aniyah, Aalina, and Arionna;
7 his great-grandsons, Jeremy, Jaelyn, Shannon, and Jeron; many
8 nieces, nephews, and cousins; the Citizens of News Family; and
9 many other family members and friends; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we, along with his family and friends,
13 mourn the passing of William Garth, Sr.; and be it further

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