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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 Florence Coakley, who passed away on June 29, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Florence Coakley was born on July 10, 1926 in Dermott, Arkansas; her parents were Eddie and Florida Hines; she married Clarence Coakley on December 10, 1942 in Dermott, Arkansas; and

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WHEREAS, Florence Coakley attended the Dermott school systems in Dermott, Arkansas, where she was a very smart and excellent student; and

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WHEREAS, In 1945, Florence Coakley moved to Chicago, where she worked very hard at the Curtis Candy Company and Carter's and Company; she was known and loved throughout her community as the "Candy Store Lady"; and

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WHEREAS, Florence Coakley accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized under the leadership of Reverend Humphrey of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Dermott, Arkansas, where she was a great church worker and dedicated Sunday school teacher; she also attended the Divine Kingdom of Christ Church in Chicago under the leadership of Reverend Lady Lyons, Faith Temple AME

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1 Church in Chicago under the leadership of Pastor James, and
2 Sakal New Life in Christ Ministries under the leadership of the
3 late Bishop Lamont Coakley and Pastor Cynthia E. Coakley; she
4 was a faithful member of the Mother's Board and Pastor's Aid
5 Committee; she dedicated her life to Christ on January 10,
6 2015, and reinstated her membership at New Life in Christ
7 Ministries under the leadership of Pastor Bobby Strickland; and

8 WHEREAS, Florence Coakley was preceded in death by her
9 husband, Clarence Coakley; her sons, Lamont Coakley and Ronald
10 Coakley; her brothers, Timothy, John, Clarence, and Wardy
11 Hines; her sisters, Maetta, Mary, Beatrice, and Clara; her
12 grandchildren, Ronald Dockery, David Coakley, Robert and Stacy
13 Caine, and Kimberlyn Caine; and her special sister-in-law,
14 Jessie Mae Hines; and

15 WHEREAS, Florence Coakley is survived by her loving
16 children, Layendra (Charles), Bernie (Poly), Brenda (Leroy),
17 Darlene, Clarence Jr., Sandra (Andy), Phillis (Shannon),
18 Sequnia (James), Tawandray Gini (Donnie), and Prince (Duke);
19 her stepchildren, Frank Coakley and Annie Caine; her
20 goddaughter, Sandra Ramsey; her grandchildren, Tawandray
21 Shameka, Pierre, Lamont Jr., (Loretta), Absalom (Juanita),
22 Joshua (Elaine), Jonathan (Veoria), Chiquita, Bernie Jr., Gini
23 (Donnie), Romero, Grady-Joe, Kametta, Keith, Tawanda, Sharon,
24 Anthony, Arrneice, Rhonda, Tyrese, Ronald, Crystal, Steven,

1 Henderson, Cortez, Precious, Jasmine, Prince, Tyrone, Tyasia,
2 Tyanna, James, Dewanda, Lilliany, Clarence "D", Yvonne
3 (Edward), Elizabeth, Charlotte, Jonathan, Tenaz, Paula, Angela
4 (Darnel) Denita, Yolanda, Michael, and Christopher; 95
5 great-grandchildren; 25 great-great-grandchildren; her
6 sister-in-law, Helen Davis, her brother-in-law, Houston
7 Coakley; her special friends, Isa Mae Robinson and Alyce
8 Conley; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with her
12 family and friends, mourn the passing of Florence Coakley; and
13 be it further

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