



HR0395

LRB104 13919 LAW 26808 r

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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 Tuyet
4 Anh Mong Le of Chicago, who passed away on February 8, 2025;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le, the daughter of Ke Van Le and Lien Thi
7 Mong Nguyen, was born in Saigon, Vietnam on January 21, 1972;
8 she and her family fled Saigon when the city was captured by
9 North Vietnam in 1975, beginning their journey as refugees,
10 which led them to Milwaukee, Wisconsin; she attended Nicolet
11 High School in Glendale, Wisconsin; she majored in fine arts
12 at Northwestern University in Evanston, where she became a
13 young civil rights leader who started organizing classes on
14 Asian American history and began pushing the university for a
15 formal Asian American Studies program; and

16 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le, a short decade later, was the new
17 executive director of the Asian American Institute, which she
18 turned into the powerhouse known today as Asian Americans
19 Advancing Justice - Chicago (Advancing Justice - Chicago), the
20 region's premier Asian American civil rights organization; she
21 became a force for Asian American advancement, immigrant
22 justice, racial equity, and disability rights; she graded
23 politicians on Asian American inclusion, once failing the

1 Governor and the Cook County Board President to prod them into
2 action; when Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley attempted to
3 remove Asian American contractors from affirmative action for
4 construction projects, she galvanized the community to fight
5 back, winning years later; she inspired a thousand people to
6 brave an epic election-season snowstorm to demonstrate Asian
7 American voting power, helped to organize the first-ever Asian
8 American Caucus of state legislators, and fought to redraw
9 legislative districts to give Asian Americans a voice in
10 democracy; she also became known for her keynote speeches at
11 the Advancing Justice - Chicago annual gala, which evolved
12 into Chicago's "State of the Asian American Community" address
13 over her 18-year tenure; and

14 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le was well-regarded by the Asian American,
15 immigrant rights, disability rights, and civil rights
16 communities as a gentle, generous, and mighty leader whose
17 kindness was matched only by her integrity; as a wise coach and
18 sage counselor, she was noted for accomplishing things her own
19 way, through kindness and determination, which was vastly
20 different from the hardscrabble world of Chicago politics; and

21 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le was a strong supporter of several other
22 organizations, including Access Living, the Vietnamese
23 Association of Illinois, the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant
24 and Refugee Rights, the Rockwood Leadership Institute, and

1 Chicago's PBS station, WTTW; and

2 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le was known to family and friends as an
3 artist, a printmaker, a knitter, a crocheter of warm things, a
4 biting satirist, a pho-club founder, an original member of the
5 British Humor Society, a binge-watcher of cozy mysteries, a
6 jigsaw puzzle fanatic, and a friend to birds and plants; and

7 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le will be remembered for her dedication
8 and commitment as a leader, her songbird laughter, and her
9 impact on the Asian American community in Chicago and the
10 State of Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, Tuyet Le is survived by her siblings, Van Anh M.
12 Le, Thu Anh Le-Schlecht, Huy Q. Le, and Tan H. Le; her many
13 cousins, nieces, and nephews; and her extended chosen family,
14 including Saket Soni, Esther Hurh, Tony Streit, Gary Hsin,
15 Elaine Kuo, Clarita Santos, Steve Merritt, Joanna Su, Elvin
16 Chan, Dayo Gore, Mehrdad Azemun, and Jee Yeun Lee; therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we mourn the passing of Tuyet Anh Mong Le and extend our
21 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
22 and loved her; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Tuyet Le as an expression of our
3 deepest sympathy.