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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to commend Dr. Jo Ann Roberts for her
4 instrumental role in advancing the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr.
5 Young Voter Empowerment Law; and

6 WHEREAS, Reverend Jesse L. Jackson Sr. has dedicated his
7 life to advancing civil rights, social justice, and civic
8 engagement, with a steadfast belief that young people must be
9 educated, empowered, and included in the democratic process;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Roberts has worked alongside Rev. Jackson for
12 more than fifty years, standing with him in service, advocacy,
13 and leadership and remaining deeply committed to the
14 principles of justice, equity, and democratic participation;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Through decades of unwavering dedication, Dr.
17 Roberts has played a critical role in preserving and advancing
18 Rev. Jackson's vision, ensuring that his lifelong commitment
19 to youth empowerment and civic engagement continues to thrive;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Roberts formed a coalition comprised of

1 Devorah Crable of Know Your Power: Vote, Letina Brady Pettis
2 of Get Out the Vote 4 Teens, Betty Magness of the Rainbow Push
3 Coalition, and Frederique Desrosiers, policy and advocacy
4 director at Chicago Votes; the coalition met with Senator
5 Robert Peters, who agreed to sponsor the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson
6 Sr. Young Voter Empowerment Law; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Roberts was instrumental in advancing the
8 Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. Young Voter Empowerment Law, helping
9 to move this historic legislation forward and ensuring that
10 young people are intentionally seated at the table where
11 decisions are made; and

12 WHEREAS, This law reflects Rev. Jackson's belief that
13 democracy is strengthened when youth voices are heard,
14 respected, and prepared to participate fully in the democratic
15 process; and

16 WHEREAS, Through her leadership, Dr. Roberts has honored
17 Rev. Jackson's wishes by championing civic education, voter
18 engagement, and youth leadership development, ensuring that
19 teens learn the democratic process, understand the power of
20 their voices, and recognize the importance of voting;
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we commend Dr. Jo Ann Roberts for her extraordinary
3 leadership, lifelong service, and instrumental role in
4 advancing the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. Young Voter
5 Empowerment Law by empowering youth, amplifying their voices,
6 and preparing the next generation to lead through informed
7 civic participation; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to Dr. Roberts as an expression of our esteem and
10 respect.