



HR0846

LRB104 21669 RMO 37212 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Barbara  
4 Deer of Chicago, who passed away on April 14, 2026; and

5 WHEREAS, Barbara Deer, the daughter of Geraline and Carl  
6 Walton, was born on February 22, 1975; she committed to her  
7 faith at an early age at First Baptist Church and later became  
8 a member of Living Word Christian Center; she earned a  
9 Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders from Jackson  
10 State University and a Master of Arts in Speech-Language  
11 Pathology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Barbara Deer was a licensed speech-language  
14 pathologist who helped clients find their voices and left an  
15 impact on many families; she expanded her role when she became  
16 chief executive officer of Metamorphosis Health LLC, where she  
17 championed holistic wellness and empowered others to pursue  
18 healthier, more balanced lives; and

19 WHEREAS, Barbara Deer served as executive director of  
20 Juneteenth Illinois, continuing the vision of community  
21 development and cultural celebration she shared with her late  
22 husband, Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer; and

1       WHEREAS, Barbara Deer gave generously of her time, always  
2 seeking to uplift and inspire others, and was a proud member of  
3 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, a charter member of  
4 the Top Ladies of Distinction Chicago West Loop Chapter, and  
5 an active participant in numerous community organizations; and

6       WHEREAS, Barbara Deer cherished her roles as a wife,  
7 mother, and grandmother above all, sharing 27 years of  
8 marriage with her beloved late husband and being a devoted  
9 mother to three children as well as a loving grandmother to one  
10 grandchild; and

11       WHEREAS, Barbara Deer was a woman of strength, faith, and  
12 unwavering commitment to her family and community who led with  
13 grace and lived with purpose; her legacy will continue through  
14 the lives she touched, the community she strengthened, and the  
15 family she so dearly loved; and

16       WHEREAS, Barbara Deer was preceded in death by her father;  
17 her husband; and her son, Kaleb Deer; and

18       WHEREAS, Barbara Deer is survived by her mother; her  
19 children, Kanaan Deer and Trinity Deer; her twin sister, Carol  
20 Walton; her brother, Carl Walton Jr.; her sister, Betty  
21 Garner; her granddaughter, Kamora Deer; her pet, Reese; and a

1 host of extended family, friends, and community members;  
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
5 we mourn the passing of Barbara Deer and extend our sincere  
6 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
7 her; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the family of Barbara Deer as an expression of our  
10 deepest sympathy.