



HR0988

LRB104 22480 MST 38925 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Demetra
4 Rayvoir Banks, who passed away on June 25, 2026; and

5 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks was born in Texarkana, Arkansas to
6 James Sr. and Bessie Marie (English) Flint on January 17,
7 1959; she attended Theron Jones Elementary School until fourth
8 grade, when she became one of the first students to integrate
9 the Liberty-Eylau Independent School District; her family
10 relocated to Chicago Heights in 1970, and she attended
11 Washington Junior High School; and

12 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks graduated from Bloom High School in
13 1977, where she was on the cheer squad and sang with the Ellis
14 Franklin Singers, a community high school gospel choir; she
15 attended Elmhurst University, where she sang in the gospel
16 choir; she married Dwayne A. Banks Sr. on July 27, 1985, and
17 they settled in Peoria; and

18 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks was employed by the United States
19 Postal Service, where she dedicated more than 25 years of
20 service before retiring in February 2015; and

21 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks served the Peoria community through

1 various organizations and her church home, St. Paul Church,
2 where she was part of the Greeters Committee and was active in
3 the Women of Courage Ministries; she was a speaker on Pink
4 Sunday, where she raised breast cancer awareness and shared
5 her story; she also was an advocate for others in the
6 community, offering resources, encouragement, and support to
7 those walking a similar journey through Circle of Promise; and

8 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks was affectionately known as "Happy
9 Feet" and had a deep love for her family; she found great joy
10 in traveling, especially enjoying trips with family as well as
11 her annual girlfriend trip with her dear friends; she was one
12 of the members of the New Birth Choral Ensemble in the late 70s
13 and 80s; and

14 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks, inspired by her mother, proudly
15 continued her legacy as a second-generation and Life member of
16 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; she passed that
17 legacy on to her daughter and granddaughter, creating four
18 generations of sisterhood, scholarship, and service; she was a
19 current member of Nu Pi Omega chapter in Peoria, holding
20 several leadership positions and serving on numerous
21 committees; she was nominated for Soror of the Year on several
22 occasions; and

23 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks was preceded in death by her

1 mother, Bessie Flint; and

2 WHEREAS, Demetra Banks is survived by her husband of 40
3 years, Dwayne; her children, Danielle, Dwayne (Mayra) Jr., and
4 Dreyanna Banks; her grandchildren, Dejah Foster, Kent Johnson,
5 Krew Johnson, and Masai Banks; her father, Rev. James R. Flint
6 Sr.; her siblings, Rev. Alecia (Michael) Dixon and Pastor
7 James R. (Thursday) Flint Jr.; her in-laws; and numerous
8 cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family members, and
9 friends; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we mourn the passing of Demetra Rayvoir Banks and extend our
13 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
14 and loved her; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Demetra Banks as a symbol of our
17 deepest sympathy.