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LRB104 12427 ECR 22722 r

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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 Blanca Delia Hernandez of Chicago, who passed away on February 12, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez was born in Morovis, Puerto Rico, and she was raised in Jayuya; at the age of 22, she moved to Chicago, where she met her husband, Gilberto Hernandez, and they settled in the Lincoln Park neighborhood; she was a resident of Chicago for 73 years; and

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WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez worked as an educator for Chicago Public Schools (CPS) for 24 years and served as a stout advocate for education in the Latino community; alongside her husband and siblings, she also helped establish the first financial institution to serve Latinos in Chicago, the Caballeros de San Juan Credit Union; and

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WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez was a dedicated member of St. Michael's Parish, where she established the first Spanish Mass to provide Puerto Ricans with a home base in the community; after she and her family later moved to St. Sylvester Parish, she volunteered for many activities, including as a teacher in the church's Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) program; and

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1 WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez was a force to be reckoned with
2 and an exemplary mother; she was known for her strength and
3 determination to persevere through any obstacle, overcoming
4 any challenge by utilizing her wisdom, patience, and faith;
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6 WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez was preceded in death by her
7 husband of 27 years, Gilberto; and

8 WHEREAS, Blanca Hernandez is survived by her children,
9 Tati (Michael) Needleman, Quitty (James) Hernandez, Ana Maria
10 (Francisco) Accove, Gilberto (Yolanda) Hernandez II, Marta
11 Hernandez, Orlando (the late Darlene) Hernandez, and Susana
12 (Dave) Sheeran; 13 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren;
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
16 Blanca Delia Hernandez and extend our sincere condolences to
17 her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Blanca Hernandez as an expression
21 of our deepest sympathy.