



HR0534

LRB102 21166 LAW 30182 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the life of Constance Renick
4 Lane on the occasion of what would have been her 100th
5 birthday; and

6 WHEREAS, Constance Lane was born to James Alexander and
7 Nozella (Oda) Carmichael in Rockford on November 9, 1921; she
8 graduated from Rockford Central High School at age 16; she
9 earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from West Virginia
10 State College in 1943 when it was uncommon for a Black woman to
11 attend college; she later obtained her Master of Arts from
12 Northwestern University; and

13 WHEREAS, Constance Lane became the first African American
14 teacher in Rockford Public Schools in 1954; she became the
15 first African American principal in Rockford Public Schools in
16 1966; and

17 WHEREAS, Constance Lane dedicated more than 30 years to
18 enhancing the education of students in Rockford Public
19 Schools, reaching the level of superintendent of elementary
20 education; in addition, she taught mathematics at Rockford
21 College for 16 years; and

1 WHEREAS, Constance Lane was active within her community
2 and was a member of several boards, including the Rockford
3 Public Library and the YWCA; and

4 WHEREAS, Constance Lane was a pioneer in Rockford's
5 education system; her passion, dedication, and unwavering
6 persistence broke barriers and inspired generations of young
7 learners; she passed away on September 27, 2000 and November
8 9, 2021 marks the 100th anniversary of her birth; therefore,
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we recognize the life of Constance Renick Lane and what would
13 have been her 100th birthday; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Constance Lane and the Constance
16 Lane Elementary School as an expression of our deepest
17 sympathy.