



HR0556

LRB102 21863 MST 30984 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Sleety  
4 Bournes, who passed away on November 10, 2021; and

5           WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes was born to Della and Joshua  
6 Bournes in Oak Vale, Mississippi on February 14, 1935; she  
7 eventually settled in Chicago; and

8           WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes started volunteering at her son  
9 Stephen's elementary school in 1980, which she continued after  
10 his graduation in 1985; she was most proud for being named  
11 Outstanding Schoolhouse Volunteer by the Chicago Public  
12 Schools in 1985, representing her dedication to volunteering  
13 at both Crispus Attucks Elementary School and Thomas A.  
14 Hendricks Elementary School from 1980 to 1987; and

15           WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes read her bible every day; she was  
16 a member of the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, where  
17 she was part of the Buzy Bee Club; she later joined Fidelity  
18 Missionary Baptist Church in 1986, where she served on the  
19 Usher's Board, the Women's Ministry, and the Mother's Board,  
20 among other ministries; she looked forward to the annual  
21 church tea and the state rally, where she was the state captain  
22 for Mississippi; she later joined the Pleasant Green Baptist

1 Church in the mid 1990s, where she was active with the Mother's  
2 Board and the February Group ministries; her true ministry and  
3 passion was taking care of the sick and the elderly; she loved  
4 taking care of others and would be the first person to visit  
5 someone in the hospital; and

6 WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes was a true homemaker, keeping an  
7 immaculately clean house, maintaining a garden, and canning  
8 vegetables for the winter; she was a good cook and was most  
9 famous for her baking, especially her lemon glazed pound cake;  
10 she took joy in growing her summer garden and often shared  
11 fresh vegetables such as collard greens, peppers, and zucchini  
12 with her neighbors and the property management office, who all  
13 looked forward to her zucchini bread; and

14 WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes' hobbies included reading, solving  
15 word searches, thrifting, and watching sports, especially  
16 tennis; she was an artist, a painter, and even fancied herself  
17 as an interior decorator; she was also a pretty good barber;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes was known for her stylish dresses  
20 and sharp hats, and she loved putting on her Sunday best; she  
21 enjoyed sharing stories of growing up in Mississippi with  
22 family and friends; she will be dearly missed; and

1           WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes was preceded in death by her  
2 parents; her brothers, John L. Bournes, Leonard Ray Bournes,  
3 and Arthur Ray; her sisters, Ivory Joe Bournes, Teola Bournes,  
4 Ruth Thomas, Applessie King, and LeeDora Bournes Simmons; and  
5 her son, Larry Bournes; and

6           WHEREAS, Sleety Bournes is survived by her sons, Selman,  
7 Ronnie (Angela), Kenneth (Linda), Christopher, Rishard  
8 (Denise), and Stephen (Deone); her brother, James Melvin  
9 Bournes; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren,  
10 nieces, nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

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

16           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to the family of Sleety Bournes as an expression of  
18 our deepest sympathy.