



HR0841

LRB102 27274 LAW 39061 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Jessie  
4 Teen (Spurlin) Foster, who passed away on April 7, 2022; and

5           WHEREAS, Jessie Foster was born to Olivia and Owen Spurlin  
6 in Lexington, Mississippi on May 4, 1935; she began her formal  
7 education in a small, one-room schoolhouse in Lexington,  
8 Mississippi; she relocated to Chicago with her family when she  
9 was a teenager and continued her education at Farragut High  
10 School, where she was voted best dressed in her senior year;  
11 she attended the Secretarial College in Chicago; she married  
12 Curtis Foster in July 1954, and they had seven children; and

13           WHEREAS, Jessie Foster, early in her marriage, spent her  
14 time as a devoted wife, mother, and daughter; in addition to  
15 being a mainstay in her children's lives, she was also an  
16 integral part of the caregiving her mother received during the  
17 last years of her mother's life; she later became a proud and  
18 loving grandmother, ensuring her grandchildren had a  
19 fulfilling and loving childhood; and

20           WHEREAS, Jessie Foster was active in a number of  
21 organizations, including the Girl Scouts and the PTA; she  
22 served as chairman of the West End Block Club in Chicago; as

1 her children grew older, she started working for the Chicago  
2 Public School across the street from her home; and

3 WHEREAS, Alongside her husband, Jessie Foster embarked on  
4 a new entrepreneurial journey in the 1980s, and their  
5 business, Foster and Foster Construction, landed multiple  
6 contracts, which included HUD, ComEd, and the City of Chicago;  
7 at that time, she also attended Triton College for computer  
8 programming, which helped with the expansion of the business;  
9 she retired to spend more time with her family after her  
10 husband's passing in 1993; and

11 WHEREAS, Jessie Foster had a taste for adventure; she  
12 traveled with her daughters and grandchildren extensively,  
13 both internationally and domestically; her curiosity and  
14 adventurous spirit made her ready for anything, from  
15 parasailing in Hawaii to Segway journeys in downtown Chicago;  
16 she traveled to a number of places, including Germany, Spain,  
17 Italy, Greece, Croatia, and Belize; she most recently traveled  
18 back to Venice; and

19 WHEREAS, Jessie Foster committed to her faith at an early  
20 age; she was affectionately known as "Bae-Doll" as the  
21 youngest child of her family, a nickname that stayed with her  
22 throughout her life; and

1           WHEREAS, Jessie Foster was the wife of Curtis Foster; the  
2           sister of Anderson Spurlin (Modell), Owen Spurlin (Lena),  
3           Amelda Thomas (Lee), Mildred Leonard (Charles), and Amanda  
4           Watkins (William); the mother of Andre Foster (Barbara), Grace  
5           Foster, Valerie Deere (Charles), Donna Foster, Dorrie Foster,  
6           Olivia Foster, and Devon Toliver (Steven); the grandmother of  
7           Andre Foster, Kristen Clower (Michael), Alicia Denton (Arien),  
8           Jennifer Davis, Valerie Donoso (Ismael), Curtis Foster  
9           (Linnea), Raja Zahid (Courtney), Baleace Ashley Foster, Joshua  
10          Toliver, Elijah Toliver, and Caleb Toliver; the  
11          great-grandmother of 11; the aunt of a host of nieces and  
12          nephews; and the friend of many; therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
14          HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
15          we mourn the passing of Jessie Teen (Spurlin) Foster and  
16          extend our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all  
17          who knew and loved her; and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19          presented to the family of Jessie Foster as an expression of  
20          our deepest sympathy.