



SR0797

LRB102 25756 MST 35082 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Deidre Nicole "Nadia" Silas of
4 Springfield, who passed away tragically on January 4, 2022;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas was born to Roy and Barie Graham in
7 Kingston, Jamaica on July 30, 1985; she moved to the United
8 States in 1995; she was a member of Delta Sigmas Theta Inc.'s
9 La Petite program as an eighth grader and Alpha Kappa Alpha
10 Sorority, Inc. while attending Springfield High School; she
11 obtained her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from
12 Illinois State University in 2008; she married Andre Silas in
13 2017; she earned her Master of Public Administration in 2019
14 and certifications in Project Management and Human Resource
15 Management in 2020; and

16 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas worked as a juvenile justice
17 specialist and then as a supervisor at the Illinois Youth
18 Center in Charleston from 2009 to 2017, where she was
19 affectionately known as "Mama Graham"; she served as a child
20 protection specialist with the Department of Child and Family
21 Services; she was admired for her meticulousness in tracking
22 her cases and performing her duties; she was dedicated to
23 keeping the children and families of Illinois safe; and

1 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas published an autobiography in 2020
2 entitled The Crowns I Wear; and

3 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas committed to her faith at an early
4 age, and she attended Union Baptist Church; she enjoyed
5 spending time with her family and friends, reading, and
6 cooking; and

7 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas was known for her kindness and her
8 loving, warm, uplifting, and generous nature; she was willing
9 to help anyone in need, especially children in broken homes;
10 she will be dearly missed; and

11 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas was preceded in death by her
12 grandparents, Gersham and Gertrude; her aunt, Carole; and her
13 grandmother, Beryl; and

14 WHEREAS, Deidre Silas is survived by her husband, Andre
15 Silas; her children, Ashton and Amelia; her parents; her
16 brother, Mario Graham; her honorary sister and cousin, Monique
17 Coombs; her grandfather, Clifford; her aunts, Monica, Avis,
18 Andrea, Annmarie, Shawnie, Movia, Sylvia, Sharon, Kerryann,
19 and Carol; her uncles, Carl, Lenny, Winston, Errol, Donovan,
20 Wayne, Junior, and Shawn; and her many cousins; therefore, be
21 it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Deidre Nicole "Nadia" Silas and extend our sincere condolences
4 to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Deidre Silas as an expression of our
8 deepest sympathy.