



HR0276

LRB103 32348 MST 61713 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Chicago  
4 police officer Aréanah Preston, who was killed in the line of  
5 duty on May 6, 2023; and

6           WHEREAS, Aréanah Preston was born on June 7, 1998; she  
7 attended high school at UIC College Prep; she graduated from  
8 Illinois State University in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in  
9 criminal justice and law enforcement administration, where she  
10 was a member of the National Association of Colored Women's  
11 Club; she earned a Master of Jurisprudence from the Loyola  
12 University Chicago School of Law and was set to walk the stage  
13 on May 13, 2023; and

14           WHEREAS, Aréanah Preston spent three years with the  
15 Chicago Police Department and was assigned to the 5th  
16 District, which includes the Roseland, Pullman, West Pullman,  
17 and Altgeld Gardens communities; and

18           WHEREAS, Since childhood, Aréanah Preston wanted to be a  
19 police officer; she was dedicated to making a difference to  
20 show young people that law enforcement could have a strong  
21 positive impact in every community; and

1           WHEREAS, After Illinois State University's inaugural  
2 Social Justice: Trip Through Genocide experience, Aréanah  
3 Preston was troubled by the underrepresentation of minorities  
4 in law enforcement and by too many incidents of police  
5 brutality claiming the lives of unarmed people of color; and

6           WHEREAS, Based on what Aréanah Preston experienced on this  
7 trip, she turned contemplation into action by entering the  
8 academy for the Chicago Police Department with the goal of  
9 building trust between law enforcement and underrepresented  
10 communities; and

11           WHEREAS, Aréanah Preston was quoted after this trip,  
12 saying "I know a big thing for our trip was finding voices for  
13 those who didn't have a voice. When I got back, I wanted to be  
14 an officer. I felt like could be a person to fight for justice.  
15 I wish everyday that I could go back. I had ideas but didn't  
16 know how to vocalize them. The trip made me a stronger  
17 person."; and

18           WHEREAS, Aréanah Preston will be remembered as an  
19 uplifting, courageous, and intelligent young woman with  
20 unlimited potential; and

21           WHEREAS, Aréanah Preston is survived by her mother, her  
22 father, her younger twin sisters, and numerous extended family

1 members and friends; therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
3 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we mourn the passing of Chicago police officer Aréanah Preston  
5 and extend our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and  
6 all who knew and loved her; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 presented to the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Lt.  
9 Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Mayor and Mayor-Elect  
10 of the City of Chicago, the Chief of the Chicago Police  
11 Department, and the family of Aréanah Preston as an expression  
12 of our deepest sympathy.