



HR0786

LRB095 14066 GRL 39918 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 Dr. Terra  
4 Thomas, who passed away on October 12, 2007; and

5           WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas was born on October 16, 1947 in  
6 Easton, Maryland; she attended Morgan State University, where  
7 she was a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. since  
8 1977; she received her doctorate in psychology from Adelphi  
9 University; and

10           WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas had a long and distinguished  
11 career in the medical profession; she began working for Human  
12 Resources Development Institute, Inc., an agency that provides  
13 behavioral health services, in 1978 as a child psychologist;  
14 she became the institute's President and CEO in 2004; she  
15 served as an associate faculty member at Northwestern  
16 University Medical School's Institute of Psychiatry, where she  
17 provided clinical supervision to the institute's staff and  
18 graduate students; she also served on the boards of the  
19 Illinois Alcoholism & Drug Dependence Association, the  
20 Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois, the  
21 International Council of Alcoholism and Addiction, the  
22 Governor's Task Force for the Consolidation of the Departments  
23 of Substance Abuse and Alcoholism, and the Corporate Council on

1 Africa; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas traveled around the world as a  
3 medical consultant; she served as a technical advisor to the  
4 Ministry of Health of South Africa; she served as an expert  
5 trainer for the United Nations Drug Control Programmes in  
6 western Africa and as a trainer in Cultural Competency for  
7 various diverse populations; she was a consultant for the  
8 presidents of Zambia, Nigeria, Mozambique, and Liberia; she was  
9 a representative for the United States Office of Drug Control  
10 in Peru; she also served as an expert consultant and trainer to  
11 the National Institute of Drug Abuse and the Center for  
12 Substance Abuse Prevention in the United States and the Virgin  
13 Islands; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas was a designer and trainer for  
15 various HIV/AIDS outreach, prevention, and education models  
16 since 1984; she was a co-founder of the AIDS Foundation Chicago  
17 and the Midwest Training and Education Center; she was also a  
18 founding member of the Illinois AIDS Advisory Board; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas was an active member of the  
20 Apostolic Church of God; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite her busy schedule, Dr. Terra Thomas always  
22 found time to spend with her family and always supported their

1 activities; she was well known as the children's biggest fan;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Terra Thomas is survived by her sons, Rheaves  
4 and Brooks; her brothers, Ronald Thomas, Dwayne Thomas, and  
5 Albert Nash; her grandmother, Nellie Leatherberry; her 7 nieces  
6 and 2 nephews; her 4 aunts and 3 uncles; and a host of cousins,  
7 friends, and associates; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
10 mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of Dr.  
11 Terra Thomas; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family of Dr. Terra Thomas as an expression of  
14 our sympathy.