



HR0813

LRB095 14291 GRL 40170 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Ceola
4 Crawford, who passed away on October 25, 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford was born on August 22, 1914 in
6 Baton Rouge, Louisiana; her parents are Reverend James and Ann
7 Andrews; and

8 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford completed her education in
9 Louisiana and Mississippi; she relocated with her cousins to
10 Chicago in 1941; upon arriving in Chicago in 1941, she joined
11 the Pilgrim Baptist Church and attended the Light of the World
12 COGIC; she later attended Wallace Temple COGIC; in 1963, she
13 joined Robert's Temple COGIC, where she served as the "Big
14 Sister of the Sunshine Band"; in 1969, she joined Faith Temple
15 COGIC, where she worked with the street ministry, the prison
16 ministry, and the Nursing Home Ministry, among others; and

17 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford held the distinction of being the
18 1st African-American female to be employed with the Campbell's
19 Soup Company; and

20 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford loved to recite Christian poetry;
21 one of her favorite poems was "I Have Been Thinking About That

1 Heaven"; and

2 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford was a strong believer in God who
3 reared her children "in the way that they should go"; she was
4 well known for her "Sunday Soulful meals", which were open to
5 anyone who came to her home; and

6 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford was preceded in death by her son,
7 James; her daughter, Patricia Brinson; her sisters, Leona,
8 Mary, and Martha; and her brother, Tom; and

9 WHEREAS, Ceola Crawford is survived by her husband of 60
10 years, Elder Jesse Crawford; her sons, Jesse (Lorna) Crawford,
11 and Thelester (Sheila) Crawford; her daughters, Dorothy Shaw,
12 Rosemary Dawson, Martha (Winfred) Scott, and Gloria Crawford;
13 her play daughters, Ardella Dority and Vanessa Wilson; her
14 God-daughter, R. Simmons Baker; her special friends, Mother
15 Patherson, Sister Owens, Sister Cox, and Mother White; her 15
16 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren; her brothers-in-law
17 and sisters-in-law; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and
18 friends; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
21 mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of Ceola
22 Crawford; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Ceola Crawford as an expression of
3 our sympathy.