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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to
3 learn of the death of Alene O. Fleming; and

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WHEREAS, Alene Fleming was born on August 7, 1907, in
5 Bolivar County, Mississippi; her parents were Ned and Lela
6 Fleming; she married Clarence Rochon on September 22, 1926; and

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WHEREAS, Alene Fleming attended First Baptist Church in
8 Renova, Mississippi, where her godfather, Monroe Williams, was
9 a founding member; at the age of 12, she was baptized; she was
10 fond of saying she had been serving the Lord for 91 years; she
11 was also known for her beautiful soprano voice and was a
12 soloist throughout her life; and

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WHEREAS, Alene Fleming attended school in a one-room
14 schoolhouse in Renova, Mississippi; she attended high school at
15 Tuskegee, where she studied nursing and proudly served Dr.
16 George Washington Carver his breakfast each morning; and

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WHEREAS, In 1925, Alene Fleming moved to Chicago, where she
18 held various jobs; during World War II, she worked at a defense
19 plant, where she worked as a seamstress, specializing in making
20 military uniforms; in 1957, she moved to Robbins and joined St.
21 John Community Church under the leadership of Reverend Charles

1 Fuller; she was a soloist in the Senior Choir, a member of the
2 August Birthday Club, and an active participant in the Willing
3 Workers Club at St. John; and

4 WHEREAS, In the 1960's, Alene Fleming returned to school,
5 where she completed her Child Development Certificate at
6 Moraine Valley Community College; she subsequently retired
7 from Robbins Head Start in the mid 1970s; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1981, Alene Fleming relocated to The Woodlands,
9 Texas to help with the rearing of her grandsons, Doyle and
10 Darren; while in the Woodlands, she was a member of St. Paul's
11 Baptist Church of the Woodlands; in 1997, she returned to
12 Robbins, where she resided until her death; upon returning to
13 Robbins, she renewed her membership at St. John Community
14 Church; and

15 WHEREAS, Alene Fleming was active in community service
16 activities; she was involved in local politics, the Robbins
17 Celebration League, and the PTA; she served wherever she was
18 needed and always with a smile; her great dinners and excellent
19 baking will be remembered fondly by many; and

20 WHEREAS, Alene Fleming was preceded in death by her son,
21 Walter Collins (Flore); her siblings, Richard, Bessie, Ned,
22 James, Perry, John Henry, Bertha, Ruth, Geraldine, and Carl;

1 her granddaughter, Gwendolyn Boston; and her grandson,
2 Mckinley "Mack" Collins; and

3 WHEREAS, Alene Fleming is survived by her sisters, Bernice
4 Lee and Lyree Roberson (King); her sisters-in-law, Irma Fleming
5 (James) and Lillian Fleming (Carl); her children, Harold
6 Douglas Fleming (Jane) and Ava Blocker; her grandchildren,
7 Walter Collins, Jr. (Gladys), Maurice Collins (Vivian), Ralph
8 Collins, Rose Ikpelue (Mike), Melvin Collins, Anthony Collins
9 (Joyce), Martin Amos (Angela), Erick Fleming, Derrick Fleming,
10 Chantal Fleming, Joshua Fleming, Doyle Fleming (Rhoda), and
11 Darren Fleming; her 39 great-grandchildren; her 33
12 great-great-grandchildren; her 1 great-great-great-grandchild;
13 and her many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
17 her family and friends, the passing of Alene O. Fleming; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Alene Fleming as an expression of
21 our sympathy.