



HR0242

LRB097 11398 KXB 53717 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Sandra Gildersleeve-Freeman of Chicago, who passed away on March 3, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, She was born on July 28, 1956 to Albert and Zola Gildersleeve; she professed her faith in God and was a member of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church; she was a proud and loyal member of the Inspirational Choir; and

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WHEREAS, She attended Betsy Ross Elementary School and Englewood High School; in high school she was involved with the Army ROTC program and was named the 1972 ROTC Queen, received the Superior Cadet Award, and the 1974 Lieutenant Colonel Army ROTC Commander in Chief of Battalion; she attended Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana with a four-year Pullman Academic Scholarship; while in college, she studied abroad in Rodez, France; she received her Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in Sociology/Anthropology and a minor in African-American studies; and

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WHEREAS, She later received a Master's degree in Corrections and Criminal Justice and worked towards her Ph.D. at Loyola University and DePaul University in the areas of

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1 Social Work and Sociology; and

2 WHEREAS, She met and later married her true love, Larry
3 "Dobbie" Freeman; and

4 WHEREAS, She was employed at Chicago State University in
5 the Financial Aid Department; she was later promoted to the
6 Military Science Department; her true passion was writing and
7 poetry; she was the founder of Kenyatta Publications and is
8 remembered as a poet, writer, educator, and songwriter; and

9 WHEREAS, She was a member of the Academy of American Poets,
10 the African-American Publishing Association, the International
11 Platform Association, the International Society of Poets, the
12 International Black Writers Conference, and the Women in
13 Literature Networking Audience; she received many awards,
14 including the Silver Poet Award, the Poet of Merit award, the
15 Golden Poet Award, and others; and

16 WHEREAS, She was preceded in death by her parents; and

17 WHEREAS, Sandra Gildersleeve-Freeman is survived by her
18 husband, Larry; her children, Lawrence and Zola; her
19 mother-in-law, Eula (Isaac) Spann; her brothers, Winfred
20 (Michelle) Boyd and Albert (Barbara) Gildersleeve; her
21 sisters, Shirley (Robert) Harris and Beverly Catherine; her

1 brothers-in-law, Melvin Freeman and Campanella (Queen)
2 Freeman; her sisters-in-law, Angela Carter, Shirley (Wendell)
3 Sanders, Catherine (Bennett) Hall, and Anita Freeman; her
4 special nephew, Michael Bland; her special nieces, LaTanya
5 Burton, Dietrich Graham, and NaTasha Harris; as well as a host
6 of other nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of
11 Sandra Gildersleeve-Freeman; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Sandra Gildersleeve-Freeman as a
14 symbol of our sincere sympathy.