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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Rev. Dr. Isaac Singleton of Joliet, who passed away on February 10, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Tallulah, Louisiana, to Sarah and Ruben Singleton; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Isaac Singleton was one of the most influential spiritual leaders of our time; he dedicated his entire life to making a difference for mankind; during the 1950s and 1960s, Dr. Singleton played a major role in the civil rights movement, marching alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Dr. Singleton shared Dr. King's dream, his vision, and the struggle for equality; and

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WHEREAS, As a result of believing right is right and wrong is wrong, he gained national recognition for his efforts in the civil rights movement; Dr. Singleton was known throughout the world as a leader for all people; he was also recognized as one of the most prolific speakers and teachers of the gospel; for over four decades, Dr. Singleton spread the good news of Jesus Christ around the world; for 47 years, he served as the pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Joliet, retiring in 2009; and

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1 WHEREAS, Prior to pastoring Mt. Zion, Dr. Singleton
2 pastored the Russell Street Church in East St. Louis, and he
3 pastored the Colette Street Church in Danville; under his
4 leadership at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, membership grew from 100
5 to 2,000 members; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton was one of 150 African-American
7 pastors invited to the White House by former President Ronald
8 Reagan to consult on civil rights issues; and

9 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Isaac Singleton is survived by his wife,
10 the former Pearlle B. Dexter; his children, Gloria
11 Singleton-Hayes, Isaac Singleton Jr., Charles Edward
12 Singleton, Barbara Ann Edwards, Valerie Jean Singleton, and
13 Willie Darren Singleton; his 19 grandchildren; his 9
14 great-grandchildren; his 4 great-great-grandchildren; the Mt.
15 Zion church family; and a host of relatives and friends;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
19 his family and friends, the passing of Rev. Dr. Isaac
20 Singleton; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Rev. Dr. Isaac Singleton as a symbol

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1 of our sincere sympathy.