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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 Gwendolyn Rockingham of North Chicago, who passed away on December 19, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Rockingham was born on August 26, 1953, in Evanston; her parents were Tommie and Bertha Simmons; and

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WHEREAS, As a child, Gwendolyn Rockingham and her family relocated to Waukegan, where she was a member of Gideon Church and active in the children's choir; she attended Whittier Grade School and Webster Junior High School before graduating from Waukegan High School; she later earned a Certificate in Accounting from the College of Lake County and was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Educational Honor Society; and

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WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Rockingham was employed with AT & T for many years; she began her career as a Customer Service Representative; she retired as a Systems Technician High CAP Tester after 28 years of dedicated service; and

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WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Rockingham was a member of Mt. Sinai Institutional Baptist Church of North Chicago, where she served in the Choir, Down Home Weekend, Benevolence, and Couples Ministries; she enjoyed spending summers camping with her

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1 husband Leon, her family, and her friends, including the Ebony
2 Dream Makers; she also served as the Treasurer of the Citizens
3 for Leon Rockingham; and

4 WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Rockingham was preceded in death by her
5 parents and her brother, Thomas "Skip" Simmons; and

6 WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Rockingham is survived by her husband of
7 36 years, Leon Rockingham, Jr., Mayor of the City of North
8 Chicago; her children, Tameka (Sean) Wilson and Lea; her
9 grandchildren, David, Brianna, and Terryn; her brothers, Gary
10 (Patricia) Simmons and Ted (Mattie) Simmons; her sister,
11 Patrice (Lynn) Dubose; and her many beloved nieces, nephews,
12 and cousins; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
15 her family and friends, the passing of Gwendolyn Rockingham;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Gwendolyn Rockingham as an
19 expression of our sympathy.