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LRB097 21771 KXB 70295 r

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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 Iola McGowan of Chicago, who passed away on May 24, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Iola McGowan was born on September 8, 1936; following her graduation from Farragut High School in 1954, she started a family and began to spearhead neighborhood efforts in her area; she subsequently graduated from Northeastern Illinois University; and

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WHEREAS, Iola McGowan had a long and distinguished career in government; she was a former Vice Chairman of the Illinois State Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee; she served as a Chicago Park District Commissioner and served as the 29th Ward Committeeman for 4 years; she also served on the Board of Cook County Department of Corrections; and

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WHEREAS, Iola McGowan was fondly known as the "First Lady of the Westside" for her extensive government work in the Chicagoland area; and

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WHEREAS, Iola McGowan was preceded in death by her husband, Adam "Donald" McGowan; her mother, Ernestine Martin; and her sister, Anna Pearson; and

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1           WHEREAS, Iola McGowan is survived by her children, Rhonda  
2           Stivers (fiance, Matthew), Gregory McGowan (Patricia), and  
3           Allison McGowan (fiance, Shawn); her sister, Laverne Schaffer;  
4           her grandchildren, Jason Stivers, Ashley McGowan, and Whitney  
5           McGowan; and her many nieces, nephews, other family members,  
6           and friends; therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
8           ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
9           her family and friends, the passing of Iola McGowan; and be it  
10          further

11          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12          presented to the family of Iola McGowan as an expression of our  
13          sympathy.