



HR1027

LRB098 21026 MST 58723 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Frances
4 Louise (nee Cain) Walker, who passed away on April 10, 2014;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Frances Walker was born on June 9, 1929 in Athens,
7 Alabama to James Cain and Sallie Mae (nee Sandifer) Cain; she
8 attended schools in Alabama and Rockford and married Era Walker
9 in 1948; and

10 WHEREAS, Frances Walker worked at the former Illinois Bell
11 telephone company for 15 years; she was also an independent
12 beauty consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics, and worked as a
13 medical assistant to Dr. Fonvielle, Dr. Roberts, and Dr.
14 Jackson; and

15 WHEREAS, Frances Walker was a devoted member of Allen
16 Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church since 1949; and

17 WHEREAS, Frances Walker was a tireless advocate for youth;
18 she mentored, taught, and encouraged hundreds of youth
19 throughout her life for a number of faith and community-based
20 organizations; she helped sponsor youth for a trip around the
21 world; and

1 WHEREAS, Frances Walker was well-known for her community
2 work with the National Council for Negro Women, assisting in
3 local efforts to increase African-American participation in
4 the United States Census and voting; she worked diligently in
5 helping to coordinate the Annual Black Family Reunion and
6 promoted efforts to help women become self-sufficient; she was
7 a founding board member of the Hunger Coalition with her
8 efforts resulting in raising tens of thousands of dollars to
9 help alleviate hunger in Rockford and its vicinity; and

10 WHEREAS, The Frances Walker Scholarship Fund has been
11 established with the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois
12 in her honor; and

13 WHEREAS, Frances Walker was preceded in death by her
14 husband of 61 years, Era Walker; her parents; her sister,
15 Lillye (Cain) Saulters; her son, Cyrus Walker; and her
16 son-in-law, Robert Cook; and

17 WHEREAS, Frances Walker is survived by her children, Otis
18 Walker, Ardis (Robert) Cook, and Elizabeth (The Rev. Larry)
19 Smith; grandchildren, Tiana (Kristophere') Owens, Marisha
20 (Robin) Harris, M.D., and Elyssa, Lauren, and Erin Smith;
21 great-granddaughters, Madison Owens and Olivia Harris; and by
22 many nieces, nephews, cousins, god-children, and friends;

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we mourn the passing of Frances Louise Walker, and extend our
5 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
6 and loved her; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Frances Walker as an expression of
9 our deepest sympathy.