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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to recognize Dorothy Brown for her 15  
4 years of service as the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook  
5 County and as one of the longest-serving countywide  
6 African-American elected officials; and

7           WHEREAS, Dorothy Brown was elected Clerk of the Circuit  
8 Court of Cook County in 2000 and has been re-elected to 3  
9 additional terms; 4 consecutive victories by overwhelming  
10 margins illustrate voter confidence in her abilities as the  
11 official keeper of records for all judicial matters brought  
12 into one of the largest unified court systems in the world; she  
13 is responsible for managing an annual operating budget of more  
14 than \$100 million and has a workforce of 1,800 employees; and

15           WHEREAS, Dorothy Brown has brought revolutionary changes  
16 to the operations of the circuit court clerk's office through  
17 her focus on improving services within 5 strategic areas: 21st  
18 century technology, operational efficiency, customer service,  
19 employee training and development, and financial  
20 accountability; she has implemented a host of innovative  
21 programs that have streamlined processes, improved quality  
22 service, saved millions of dollars for taxpayers, and increased  
23 revenue for Cook County; and

1           WHEREAS, Before her time as Clerk of the Circuit Court of  
2 Cook County, Dorothy Brown served from 1991 to 2000 as the  
3 General Auditor for the Chicago Transit Authority; prior to  
4 that, she worked for one of the "Big Eight" accounting firms, a  
5 major utility company, and a major Chicago Bank; she also  
6 helped start a minority CPA firm; and

7           WHEREAS, Dorothy Brown is a past President of the National  
8 Woman's Political Caucus of Greater Chicago, a past President  
9 of the Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, and a past  
10 President of the Southeast Case Management Auxiliary Board; she  
11 has served as Treasurer for both Working in the Schools (WITS)  
12 and the Illinois Chapter of the American Association of  
13 Attorneys and Certified Public Accountants; she is the founder  
14 and executive director of the Dorothy Brown Scholarship and  
15 Community Development Fund, an organization developed to  
16 secure funding for college-bound students; she is a member of  
17 the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and a member of the King of  
18 Glory Tabernacle Church of God in Christ; her professional  
19 memberships include the Chicago Bar Association, the Cook  
20 County Bar Association, the Black Women Lawyers' Association,  
21 and the Illinois Association of Certified Public Accountants;  
22 and

23           WHEREAS, Dorothy Brown has been recognized by various

1 organizations for her outstanding professional and public  
2 service; among her numerous accolades, she was awarded the 2002  
3 Hillary Rodham Clinton Leadership Award from the Illinois  
4 Democratic Women, the 2003 Marks of Excellence Award from the  
5 National Forum for Black Public Administrators, the 2003 Women  
6 of Achievement Award from the Anti-Defamation League, the 2004  
7 NAACP Medal of Freedom from the Proviso/Leyden Township in  
8 Illinois, the 2004 Pakistan Women Association Outstanding  
9 Community Service Award, the 2005 "Voice of Freedom Award" from  
10 the Harriet Beecher Stowe Fine & Performing Arts Academy, the  
11 2006 Justinian Society of Lawyers Humanitarian Award, the 2006  
12 Indian American Medical Association Public Service Award, the  
13 Information Integrity Coalition's 2007 Excellence in  
14 Information Integrity Award Finalist, Nielsen's 2007 "Single  
15 Mama of the Year" award, the Illinois Institute of Technology  
16 2007 Professional Achievement Award, the Youth Pride Center's  
17 2008 Youth Advocate of the Year Award, the Demoiselle 2 Femme's  
18 2008 Community Partnership Award, the Illinois Traffic Safety  
19 Leaders 2009 Joanne Blair Award, the 2009 Chicago-Kent  
20 Professional Achievement Award, and the Cook County Bar  
21 Association's "2010 Law Day Award of Appreciation"; and

22 WHEREAS, Dorothy Brown graduated from Webster High School,  
23 where she was in the top 10% of her class and captain of the  
24 girls' basketball team; she graduated magna cum laude from  
25 Southern University in 1975; she received her Certified Public

1 Accountant certification in 1977, her Master's in Business  
2 Administration with honors from DePaul University in Chicago in  
3 1981, and her Juris Doctorate with honors in 1996 from  
4 Chicago-Kent College of Law; she lives in Chicago with her  
5 husband, Dr. Benton Cook, and has a daughter, Detris;  
6 therefore, be it

7       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
9 recognize Dorothy Brown for serving 15 years as the Clerk of  
10 the Circuit Court of Cook County and as one of the  
11 longest-serving countywide African-American elected officials  
12 and we wish her many more successful years; and be it further

13       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to Dorothy Brown as an expression of our esteem and  
15 respect.