



HR0434

LRB104 14541 LAW 27682 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Dr. M. Connie Dyer on the occasion of her 80th birthday on July 30, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer was born in Sumrall, Mississippi on July 30, 1945; she spent her early years in the deep roots of Mississippi's Southern culture before she and her family migrated north to Chicago when her mother, Mother Odell Dyer, remarried; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer attended Orville T. Bright Elementary School on the Southeast Side of Chicago before her family became one of the first Black families to integrate into the Trumbull Park neighborhood in the 1950s, breaking racial barriers during a time of intense segregation; she became the first African American student to attend school in the Trumbull Park community amidst early school integration, where she endured daily harassment and physical abuse; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer subsequently became the first African American student to graduate from 8th grade in the Trumbull Park community; her academic journey and social breakthroughs were recognized and reported in several major news outlets, including the Chicago Defender and the Chicago Daily Tribune;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer moved to Los Angeles, California at the
3 age of 18, where she began her collegiate career; she attended
4 the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and UC
5 Berkeley, and she completed her studies at Bible College,
6 which paved the way towards her becoming the first in her
7 family to pursue and receive a doctoral degree; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer spent more than 50 years serving
9 children, youth, and families through her career in community
10 non-profits; she led several non-profit organizations while
11 delivering a number of services, including youth development,
12 mentoring, family restoration and assistance, career
13 exploration, employment preparation and placement, life
14 skills, and leadership training; through her services, she
15 encouraged recipients to become the best that they could be
16 and successful contributors in their homes and to their
17 families, community, and nation; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer has been engaged in Christian ministry
19 for over 30 years, of which she has focused on providing
20 urban/inner city ministry and mentoring leadership to the same
21 population in the City of Chicago for the past two decades; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Dyer's life is a testament to vision,

1 perseverance, and generational impact, creating a legacy that
2 continues to inspire; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we congratulate Dr. M. Connie Dyer on celebrating her 80th
6 birthday, and we thank her for her continued contributions to
7 her community and the City of Chicago; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to Dr. Dyer as an expression of our esteem and
10 respect.