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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 Helena Khayat Finka of Wadsworth, who passed away on February 4, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Helena Finka was born in Orszczow, Poland to Karol and Maria (Knapcyk) Orawiec on September 17, 1926, the second of five children along with, Karol, Eugene, Michalina, and Mary; and

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WHEREAS, In her youth, Helena Finka helped her family build one of the wealthiest farms in their community with rich orchards, vast wheat fields and lots of healthy farm animals; at age 13, her family was taken by force to the Sredmiozichna Rehabilitation Camp in Northern Siberia, where she spent 18 months in captivity; in 1942, she fled the prison camp with her family to Jerusalem, via Latvia, Uzbekistan, and Iran; and

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WHEREAS, Helena Finka married Rev. Michael Christian Khayat in 1947; they traveled to Zion in 1951, via Jordan and England, to begin a new life in America for themselves and their family; after being married to Michael for 25 years, she married Stanley Finka in 1975; and

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WHEREAS, Helena Finka was a lifelong parishioner of

1 Christian Catholic Church and an active member in the
2 community; she was highly successful in real estate and home
3 construction for more than 40 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Helena Finka was preceded in death by her
5 grandchildren, James Michael Khayat and Marshall Michael
6 Khayat; her parents; and two brothers; and

7 WHEREAS, Helena Finka is survived by her loving husband of
8 42 years, Stanley; her children, Jeanette Donahue, Miranda
9 Reeder, Christian Khayat, Mary Bennett, Lenny Khayat, and Mark
10 Khayat and their spouses; 14 grandchildren; 19
11 great-grandchildren; and two sisters; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
14 Helena Khayat Finka, and extend our sincere condolences to her
15 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
16 further

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