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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Fifty years ago, Bill Haine, a recent graduate  
3 from St. Louis University, enlisted in the United States Army  
4 and went to war in Vietnam, where he was a member of the 1st  
5 Cavalry Division Airmobile from 1967 until 1969; enlisting was  
6 the first step in a lifetime of distinguished public service  
7 that also includes a Bronze Star for combat services, election  
8 to the Madison County Board, 14 years as Madison County State's  
9 Attorney, and service in the Illinois Senate since 2002; and

10           WHEREAS, In 2017, Senator Haine announced that this would  
11 be his final term in the Illinois Senate, where he has loyally  
12 represented the 56th Senate District, which includes the  
13 communities of Caseyville, East Alton, Edwardsville, Granite  
14 City, Wood River, and his beloved hometown of Alton; and

15           WHEREAS, Senator Haine has battled multiple myeloma, a form  
16 of blood cancer, and treatments kept him away from the Capitol  
17 for most of the 2017 legislative session; however, he returned  
18 to cast the deciding votes on a balanced budget, which ended  
19 the state's two-year financial impasse, and the Senate's  
20 override of the governor's veto of a historic school funding  
21 overhaul; and

22           WHEREAS, Senator Haine is a true historian, who often

1 sprinkles legislative debates with rhetorical lessons and  
2 anecdotes from the works of Roman emperors, a litany of popes  
3 spanning civilized history, and the founding fathers; he has  
4 long been an advocate for the genius of American democracy and  
5 for what James Madison described as the ordered liberty of the  
6 legislative process as a constitutional foil to the corrupting  
7 evils of demagoguery and mob rule; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Haine's tenure in Springfield has been  
9 marked by practical politics rather than political agendas; at  
10 times, his focus has been big; and

11 WHEREAS, Senator Haine was the legislative architect of a  
12 sweeping plan to modernize the levee system in the Metro East  
13 region, an effort that has helped protect homes and businesses  
14 from flood damage in recent years; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator Haine helped win state investment in  
16 maintaining and expanding the growing Edwardsville campus of  
17 Southern Illinois University and other key infrastructures,  
18 including I-255; and

19 WHEREAS, Senator Haine worked to keep the Wood River  
20 Refinery expansion on track and similarly led successful  
21 efforts to approve a Constitutional Amendment protecting the  
22 State's Road Fund from being raided for

1 non-transportation-related spending; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Haine drew upon his distinguished,  
3 award-winning law enforcement background from his time as  
4 Madison County State's Attorney to sponsor, negotiate, and win  
5 approval of the state's medical marijuana law that balanced  
6 compassionate use with stringent standards and regulations;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, At the same time, Senator Haine kept an eye out  
9 for injustice at any level; in response to media reports of  
10 motorists being forced to pay outrageous fees to have towed  
11 vehicles released from impound lots, he sponsored and passed  
12 consumer protections limiting those charges and ending abuse;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, To protect jobs at the US Steel plant in Granite  
15 City, Senator Haine rallied the Illinois Senate to protest  
16 China's dumping of low quality, cheap steel into the U.S.  
17 market; and

18 WHEREAS, Despite Senator Haine's many awards and  
19 accomplishments, he considers the crowning achievement of his  
20 life to be his marriage to his wife, Anna, whom he met in  
21 college, and the family they have built together; and

1           WHEREAS, Senator Haine and Anna have seven children,  
2           Cecilia, Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret, Alice, Thomas, and Joseph;  
3           at the time of this reading, they have 33 grandchildren,  
4           Alexander, Madeleine, Eleanor, Gabriel, Xavier, Leo, Helen,  
5           Emil, Karol, Mary, William, Margaret, Judith Anna, Rosaria,  
6           James, Stella, Faith, Edward, John, Peter, Agnes, Joseph, Jude,  
7           Mercea, Anna, Mary, James, Lucia, Peter, Cecilia, Anselm,  
8           Joseph, and Gabriel; they have one great-grandchild, Julian;  
9           and

10           WHEREAS, Senator Haine's future plans include spending  
11           time with all of them; therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
13           ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Senator Bill  
14           Haine for his dedicated service to the people of Illinois and  
15           honor him with this resolution; and be it further

16           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17           presented to Senator Haine as an expression of our esteem and  
18           respect, and we send our best wishes as he sets forth on his  
19           next adventure.