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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 Dennis W. Conover, who passed away on November 4, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Dennis Conover was born to Sally Mae Conover in Kennett, Missouri on September 28, 1946; he relocated to Pekin after graduating high school in 1964 and dedicated his life to the service of Illinoisans within Tazewell County; and

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WHEREAS, Once settled in Pekin, Dennis Conover quickly began a career in law enforcement, following a short tenure in both the railroad and construction industries; and

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WHEREAS, Dennis Conover's law enforcement career started with the Pekin Auxiliary Police and in the 911 Communications Center, where he met his bride, Tammie Jo; and

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WHEREAS, Dennis Conover joined the Marquette Heights Police Department in 1989 and became the Firearms Range Instructor, Field Training Officer, and Sergeant of major case investigations; throughout his career, he received various law enforcement awards, most notably the illustrious Officer of the Year Award in 1994 for the largest drug bust in Marquette Heights history; and

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1 WHEREAS, In the midst of his public law enforcement career,
2 Dennis Conover earned his certification for a private detective
3 license in 1989 through the State of Illinois and opened the
4 Conover Detective Agency with his brothers, which became a
5 successful local business; and

6 WHEREAS, Dennis Conover was sworn in as the Deputy Coroner
7 of Tazewell County in 1996; he would later serve as the
8 Tazewell County Coroner from 2003 until his retirement in 2011;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Dennis Conover served his community outside of his
11 professional capacity; he was a long-time member of First
12 Christian Church, serving as deacon and elder, and a member of
13 the Salvation Army Advisory Board; he served on Pekin's Rust
14 Transitional Center Committee for temporary housing; and

15 WHEREAS, Dennis Conover sat on the Tazewell County
16 Republican Executive Board, helping to elect many local and
17 state politicians, and most recently served as its Chairman;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Dennis Conover's love of his
20 family, especially that of his loving wife, children, and
21 grandchildren will never be forgotten; he was fondly referred

1 to as "Papa" by his grandchildren; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the loss of
4 Dennis W. Conover and honor the passionate and dedicated
5 service and exemplary leadership he provided Tazewell County;
6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Dennis Conover as a symbol of our
9 respect and esteem.