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LRB101 21160 MST 71703 r

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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 Brother John-Sebastian Laird-Hammond of Washington D.C., who passed away on March 20, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Brother Sebastian graduated from Minonk-Dana-Rutland High School in 1979; he worked as a licensed practical nurse in Flanagan before joining the Franciscans; and

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WHEREAS, Brother Sebastian managed daily operations at his residence in Washington as the Commissariat of the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America; he coordinated the many details of the monastery's upkeep, the friars' health, the promotion of the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, and most importantly the relationship of the Holy Land friars with the many friends and benefactors of the order; he was also an ordained permanent deacon; most recently, he was transitioning to a new job with Immaculate Conception Province in New York; and

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WHEREAS, In 1998, Brother Sebastian became the founder and chaplain of the all-volunteer Franciscan Monastery Garden Guild; he was central to its development and growth, which had started as an organization focused on maintaining the

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1 Franciscan Monastery's rose gardens and other ornamental
2 gardens; it added the expansion of the urban farm in 2014,
3 which has donated 20,000 pounds of harvested vegetables to
4 organizations in the metro D.C. area for those who need food;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Brother Sebastian led the Franciscan Monastery's
7 capital campaign, which restored the historic 1915
8 Metropolitan Greenhouse for the year-round use of growing
9 vegetables; and

10 WHEREAS, Brother Sebastian was a kind soul and an example
11 of Franciscan joy; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
14 Brother John-Sebastian Laird-Hammond and extend our sincere
15 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
16 him; and be it further

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