



SR1207

LRB101 21578 LAW 72505 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 Harvey John Schweitzer Jr. Ph.D., of Champaign, who passed away on March 28, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer was born in Malta to Harvey Schweitzer Sr. and Anna (Wright) Schweitzer on June 1, 1919; he graduated from DeKalb High School, where he was active in 4-H and FFA, earning the American Farmer degree in 1937 and serving as the national FFA student secretary from 1938 to 1939; he graduated from Northern Illinois University in 1946; he earned his master's degree in rural sociology and agricultural economics from Michigan State University in 1948; he received his doctorate in rural sociology from the University of Wisconsin in 1958; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer operated his family farm from 1950 to 1962; during this time, he served as the South Grove Township Farm Bureau director, a county school board member, and a township director in the Farmers Home Administration; he also served on the advisory committee for the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer joined the Agricultural Economics Department at the University of Illinois in 1962; he served

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1 first as an extension specialist in rural sociology and later
2 as an assistant director of the Cooperative Extension Service
3 and in the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station; during his
4 last year, he was instrumental in establishing programs in
5 rural development and sustainable agriculture; he retired as
6 professor emeritus in agricultural economics from the
7 Extension Service in 1985 and from the Experiment Station in
8 1989; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer was involved in several
10 professional societies and held numerous leadership positions
11 in state, regional, and national research and extension
12 committees; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer was preceded in death by his
14 parents; his son, John; a great-granddaughter; and two sisters;
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16 WHEREAS, Dr. Schweitzer is survived by his wife, April; his
17 children, David (Cathy) Schweitzer, Elaine (Brian) Chaille,
18 Jennifer Rojas, John (Kathryn) Byers, and Jeffrey Byers; his
19 grandchildren, Krista (Matt) Reimer, Melissa (Nick) Perez,
20 Gabe Chaille, Christian Chaille, Elijah Rojas, Melanie Rojas,
21 Levi Rojas, Megan Watkins, John Byers, Dean Byers, and Noah
22 Byers; and four great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Harvey John Schweitzer Jr. Ph.D., and extend our sincere
4 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
5 him; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Dr. Schweitzer as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.