



SR1326

LRB101 21783 MST 72734 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 Ellen F. Whalen, who passed away on April 10, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen was born in Washington, D.C. to Bernard and Belle (Simonson) Foucault on January 19, 1937; she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Cincinnati in 1958 and was a member of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International; she completed two years of graduate school, also at the University of Cincinnati; she married James Joseph Whalen, and they settled in Waukegan in the 1960s; and

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WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen's specialty was psychiatric nursing; she served as a registered nurse at several hospitals, including Victory Memorial, St. Therese, and the VA hospital in North Chicago; she was also a certified addictions counselor and worked in the chemical dependency unit at Victory Memorial Hospital and at the Lake County Alcoholism Treatment Center; and

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WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen enjoyed being a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader and orchestrated many scouting adventures; she played piano, and all six of her children played various

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1 musical instruments; she enjoyed celebrating her Norwegian
2 heritage and had become an accomplished rosemaler, winning
3 numerous awards; she enjoyed attending estate and garage sales
4 and often bought wood products to sand, repair, and paint; and

5 WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen was an active member of the Sons of
6 Norway, first the Kenosha chapter and more recently the Racine
7 chapter; she was a member of St. Anastasia Church and more
8 recently St. Dismas Church; and

9 WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen was preceded in death by her husband,
10 James, and her parents; and

11 WHEREAS, Ellen Whalen is survived by her children, Anne
12 O'Connell (Larry Obermeyer), Thomas (Fran Mason), Matthew
13 (Barbara), Sue, Joseph (Carolyn), and Daniel (Mina) Whalen; her
14 grandchildren, Patrick O'Connell and Rebecca, Emily, Kristen,
15 Katelyn, Gregory, Sam, Edward, Andrew, and Jayden Whalen; her
16 brother, James (Bea) Foucault; her sister, Kathleen (Charles)
17 Van Tilberg; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and
18 friends; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
21 Ellen F. Whalen and extend our sincere condolences to her
22 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the family of Ellen Whalen as an expression of our
4 deepest sympathy.