



SR1610

LRB101 23482 ECR 74888 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Senator Pat McGuire began his career in the Illinois Senate in 2012; for eight years, he has proudly and ably served the people of DuPage and Will Counties in that position; and

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WHEREAS, Senator McGuire came to public service long before his election to the General Assembly; he taught job health and safety to local union members and English to high school and community college students; and

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WHEREAS, Senator McGuire has brought a lifetime of experience in both private and public schooling to his role in the Senate; he attended Catholic schools in his hometown of Joliet and later served as a member of his local school board; and

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WHEREAS, Senator McGuire also served his community in elective office as a county treasurer before becoming a state senator; and

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WHEREAS, Senator McGuire has been a strong advocate for women and children, including acting to toughen penalties on domestic abusers and funding Court Appointed Special Advocate organizations in order to ensure that abused and neglected

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1 children are getting the court support that they need and
2 deserve; and

3 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire used his position as Chair of the
4 Senate Higher Education Committee to be a tireless champion for
5 the hardworking students and families looking for opportunity
6 in Illinois, including his push to standardize Advanced
7 Placement class credit; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire worked to preserve and redevelop
9 Joliet's government facilities, including serving as a charter
10 member of the Collins Street Task Force to preserve the Collins
11 Street prison facility and fighting to ensure that efforts are
12 made to preserve a longtime fixture of the community; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire was among those leading the fight
14 for fairer wages in the Illinois Senate by co-sponsoring a
15 measure to raise the minimum wage in Illinois to \$15 per hour;
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17 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire spoke against harmful cuts to
18 programs like child care assistance and fought to preserve
19 payroll for state workers during the two year budget crisis
20 that occurred early in his career in the Senate; and

21 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire used his position as the Senate

1 Higher Education Chair to lead a years-long outcry among
2 students, faculty, and activists to call for funding for
3 universities during the two-year budget impasse; he spoke
4 against cuts to the university system and in favor of
5 continuing a commitment to affordability, accessibility, and
6 quality on the part of the state's public institutions of
7 higher learning; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire worked to form and lead the
9 bipartisan, bicameral Higher Education Working Group that was
10 instrumental in preserving and reforming Monetary Award
11 Program funding for college students and in creating the AIM
12 HIGH state scholarship; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire focused on college affordability
14 by compromising with colleagues and building on past successes
15 to bring about the Higher Education Savings Program and the
16 Illinois Savings Program Fund to help bring higher education
17 within reach of even more Illinoisans; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire also concerned himself with the
19 wellbeing of students on campus by creating the Mental Health
20 Early Action on Campus Act to respond to the very real
21 pressures and uncertainties facing many students living away
22 from home for the first time; and

1 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire dedicated himself to improving
2 the State's Department of Children and Family Services by
3 speaking with community members and agency officials on how to
4 support families in the system and improving the Department's
5 ability to respond to their needs; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire dedicated much of his career to
7 support worker safety by pushing for worker access to and
8 knowledge of the regulations and protections granted by OSHA
9 and other state workplace safety organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire, responding to the dire safety
11 concerns posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to essential workers,
12 convened a legislative working group with the goal of providing
13 employees with the means to report improper conditions and
14 provide employers with clear guidance on how to reorganize
15 their workplaces to maximize worker safety and to minimize the
16 likelihood of transmitting the virus; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire earned many accolades during his
18 time serving the 43rd Senate District, including being honored
19 by the Romeoville Fraternal Order of Police, the Illinois
20 Leadership Council for Agricultural Education, the
21 Transportation for Illinois Coalition, the Illinois Optometric
22 Association, Leading Age Illinois, Joliet Central, the senior
23 living communities Heritage Woods of Bolingbrook and Woodridge

1 Horizon, the Southwest Coalition on Substance Abuse Issues, and
2 Volunteers of America of Illinois and by being a member of the
3 Edgar Fellows Program's Class of 2017, among other honors; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator McGuire exits the Senate to dedicate more
5 time to his most important roles of being a husband to his wife
6 Lora and a father to his daughter Molly; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Senator Pat
9 McGuire for his service to the people of Illinois and honor him
10 with this resolution; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Senator McGuire with our best wishes for all his
13 future endeavors.