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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 Benjamin Lubin of Chicago, who passed away on March 1, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin Lubin was the eldest child born to the union of Octille and Hosey Lubin, in Lake Charles, Louisiana; his family grew to include his sister, Dorothy Bell, and two brothers, Calvin and Huey; he accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at Mount Calvary Baptist Church, in Lake Charles; and

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WHEREAS, After graduating from Lake Charles' W.O. Boston High School, he joined the United States Army and served during the Korean War as a paratrooper; after completing 23 years of service, he was honorably discharged, having received the Korean Service Medal with a Bronze Star, the United Nations Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal; and

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WHEREAS, After returning to the United States, he moved to Chicago and met the love of his life, Peggy Hamer, and they enjoyed 49 years of marriage, setting an example of love, companionship, and mutual respect; to this union two children were born, the late Dwain Phillip Lubin, a mechanical engineer, and Niva Marie Bennette Lubin; and

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1 WHEREAS, For more than a decade, he worked two jobs to
2 allow his wife the freedom to complete her undergraduate
3 studies and obtain her Master's degree; he worked at Chicago's
4 London House, where he met Robert Vaughn, who quickly became
5 his best friend and ultimately godfather to his daughter; their
6 friendship lasted over 50 years; Robert encouraged Ben to
7 follow his occupational path, with Ben completing the Meat
8 Cutting and Merchandising Program at Washburne Trade School and
9 working for A&P Foods; he later worked for Zenith Vending,
10 where he serviced vending machines, and Technicolor
11 Filmmakers; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1970, he began working for his final employer,
13 United Airlines; the travel bug bit him and his family and they
14 routinely visited such tropical spots as Hawaii, California,
15 the Bahamas, Florida, the Cayman Islands, and taking an Alaskan
16 cruise; in 1996, they traveled to Ghana with a group led by the
17 late Dr. Margaret Burroughs; and

18 WHEREAS, He was an avid golfer and loved to watch golf on
19 television; after his wife's passing, he joined the church of
20 his daughter and son-in-law, Trinity United Church of Christ;
21 he was an active member of the Greeter's Ministry and the
22 Gentleness Team, welcoming worshippers to the church with a
23 smile and a warm hello and welcome; and

1 WHEREAS, He made friends wherever he went and was a regular
2 at Mather's Senior Center and Café for 4 years; he enjoyed the
3 fried catfish on Fridays and a late breakfast on Wednesdays;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his wife, Peggy, and
6 his son, Dwain; and

7 WHEREAS, Benjamin Lubin is survived by his devoted
8 daughter, Niva Lubin-Johnson, M.D.; his loving son-in-law,
9 Joseph Johnson; his brother, Calvin; his mother-in-law,
10 Johnnie Jackson; his best friend, Robert Vaughn; and many
11 nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
14 his family and friends, the passing of Benjamin Lubin; and be
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Benjamin Lubin as a symbol of our
18 sincere sympathy.