



SR0935

LRB100 14576 ALS 29371 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 Benjamin Hooker Watts of Champaign, who passed away on September 19, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts was born in Urbana to Robert Allan and Emily Stipes Watts on March 1, 1962; he graduated from Champaign Central High School and Dartmouth College; he played football for both schools; he later graduated from the University of Michigan School of Law; he married Judith Diane Argentieri on October 25, 1997; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts began practicing law with Gardner Carton & Douglas in Chicago; he then returned to Champaign and joined Stipes Publishing, where he was a partner in the publishing business; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts was active in the Champaign-Urbana community and served on the Crisis Nursery Board of Directors and the Alzheimer's Association of Champaign County Board of Directors; he was a season ticket holder for Illini sports, as well as an avid supporter of the University of Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletes and the University of Illinois Library; he was a member of the University of Illinois Foundation; he also supported his alma mater, Dartmouth, and

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1 his fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, where he had served as
2 president; and

3 WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts was a devoted husband, father, son,
4 uncle, cousin, and friend, who spent most of his free time with
5 his wife and children; he was always present at his children's
6 activities; he coached his son's Little League teams, including
7 Peanut, Farm, and Kuhn's in the American League; the Kuhn's
8 team advanced to the Little League Semi-Finals in 2014; he also
9 coached several of his children's YMCA and Champaign Park
10 District basketball teams; he led his daughter's seventh and
11 eighth grade YMCA team to the league championship in 2013; his
12 other passion was gardening; and

13 WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts was preceded in death by his
14 father; and

15 WHEREAS, Benjamin Watts is survived by his mother; his
16 wife, Judith; his daughter, Olivia; his son, Samuel; his
17 brothers, Edward and Thomas; and his numerous nieces and
18 nephews; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
21 Benjamin Hooker Watts, and extend our sincere condolences to
22 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it

1 further

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