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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 Therese "Terry" DesCoteaux, who passed away on December 7, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux was born to Bernadette Chouinard and Joseph Letendre on December 19, 1927 and grew up in Lowell, Massachusetts; affectionately known as "Smiley" when she was young, her family moved to Lakewood, Ohio and then West Chester, Pennsylvania; by the 70s, they had settled in Geneva; and

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WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux helped bring Meals on Wheels to the Fox Valley area; she helped with the Geneva PTA and Fox Valley Hospice and worked as a prolific fundraiser for Tri-City Family Services and the Illinois Chamber Symphony; and

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WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux eventually found her true calling in politics and dedicated over 40 years of her life to it; she was particularly proud of the commotion she caused at St. Peter's Catholic School in 1982 when, under cover of night, her White House Advance team landed a military helicopter on the lawn; she beamed as she took President Reagan to visit the St. Peter's students; for decades she was referred to as "Mrs. D" on the campaign trail and around the Fox Valley area; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 1989, Terry DesCoteaux received recognition
2 from the Eastview Women's Resource Center and Delnor Community
3 Hospital for her contributions to the Tri-Cities area; she was
4 also awarded the Harold Byron Smith Award for extraordinary
5 volunteerism in 1997; and

6 WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux's love for people shaped
7 everything she did; her kitchen was a gathering place for
8 family and friends; she was known to dance on tables, sing
9 loudly in French with her sisters, and occasionally throw a
10 snowball or two at her grandkids; she was a master of building
11 forts out of blankets and pillows; and

12 WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux was preceded in death by her
13 husband, Paul; her infant daughter, Elizabeth Rose; her infant
14 son, David Claude; her granddaughters, Josephine and Margaret
15 Rogowski; her sisters, Rita Paquin, Janet Baril, and Pauline
16 Letendre; and her brothers, William Letendre and Arthur
17 Letendre; and

18 WHEREAS, Terry DesCoteaux is survived by her children,
19 Denise Fauntleroy and her sons with David Fauntleroy, Patrick
20 (Caitlin) and Andrew Fauntleroy, Paul Wm. (Kerith) DesCoteaux
21 and their son, Reinier, Andrea DesCoteaux, David A. DesCoteaux
22 and his daughter with Beverly DesCoteaux, Emily, Aimee (Dan)

1 Rogowski and their daughter, Eleanor; her great-granddaughter,
2 Hadley Fauntleroy; her sister, Gertrude DesRoches; her
3 brothers, Alfred (Georgette) and Edward (Sharon) Letendre; and
4 many nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
7 Therese "Terry" DesCoteaux and extend our sincere condolences
8 to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Terry DesCoteaux as an expression of
12 our deepest sympathy.