



SR0402

LRB101 12380 MST 60383 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 former Illinois Senate President Thomas Hynes, who passed away on May 4, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, President Hynes spent three years studying to become a priest at Quigley Preparatory Seminary; he decided to take a different path and enrolled at Loyola University; he graduated in 1959; three years later, he graduated first in his class from Loyola Law School; his first job as a lawyer was at one of the city's most prestigious law firms, Jenner & Block; he later taught law at John Marshall Law School; and

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WHEREAS, President Hynes was elected an Illinois State Senator in 1970, and, only seven years later, became the youngest president in the history of the Illinois Senate; he was a top member of the Democratic National Committee and also headed President Bill Clinton's reelection campaign; and

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WHEREAS, President Hynes was an early chief sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment, which the Illinois General Assembly ratified in 2018; he was a major supporter of increased funding for Chicago Public Schools; and

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WHEREAS, President Hynes served as Cook County 19th Ward

1 Democratic Committeeman for three decades until 2005; he became  
2 one of the most influential Democratic forces in Chicago; he  
3 also served as Cook County Assessor and was author of the  
4 State's homeowners' property tax exemption; and

5 WHEREAS, President Hynes demonstrated the basic power of  
6 politics and public service by understanding and meeting the  
7 daily concerns of constituents and organizing them into a  
8 political force; and

9 WHEREAS, President Hynes is survived by his wife, Judith;  
10 his sons, Deputy Governor Dan Hynes, Matt Hynes, and Thomas  
11 Hynes; his daughter, Leah Griffin; and 10 grandchildren;  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
15 former Illinois Senate President Thomas Hynes and extend our  
16 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
17 and loved him; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of President Hynes as an expression of  
20 our deepest sympathy.