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LRB101 23185 LAW 74325 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 State Senator Mary Margaret "Maggie" Crotty, who passed away on November 5, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Crotty was born in Chicago and graduated from Mercy High School; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Crotty began her career in public service as a member of the District 145 school board in 1978 and served as board president from 1986 to 1993; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Crotty served as a development coordinator in the Cook County Region for Infinite Southwest and the Southwest Cook County Cooperative for Special Education; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Crotty continued serving her community on the District 228 Strategic Planning Committee and the Educational Foundation; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Crotty began her legislative career as a State Representative and served from 1996 to 2002; she focused on education issues, senior advocacy, and consumer protections; and

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1 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty sought and won election to the
2 Illinois State Senate in 2002 and served until 2013, where she
3 made it her mission to continue to help children, seniors, and
4 families; and

5 WHEREAS, During her tenure in the General Assembly, Senator
6 Crotty fought to maintain and improve critical State services,
7 including human services and public safety, with an emphasis on
8 seniors and Illinois veterans; and

9 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty demonstrated that education was
10 the top priority of her legislative agenda by sponsoring
11 initiatives to boost the State's share of education funding and
12 to allow Illinois residents to rehabilitate their defaulted
13 student loans; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty passed the Silver Alert system in
15 Illinois that permits law enforcement to provide alerts for
16 missing or abducted seniors and disabled persons, similar to
17 the Amber Alert for children; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty waged a successful battle to close
19 the Suburban Cook County Regional Office of Education, which
20 was reckoning with allegations of corruption; and

1 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty was always a vocal proponent of
2 health and human services; she served as a lead advocate in
3 requiring insurance companies to cover treatment for children
4 with congenital or genetic disorders and increased the State's
5 understanding of children with disabilities; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty served on and led numerous
7 committees in the General Assembly, including serving as
8 chairperson of the Elections Committee, as vice-chairperson of
9 the Local Government Committee, and as co-chairperson for the
10 Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; she also served as a
11 member of the Higher Education Committee, the Labor Committee,
12 the Revenue Committee, the Joint Commission on Government
13 Reform, the Executive Committee, the Executive Appointments
14 Committee, the State Government and Veteran Affairs Committee,
15 the Environment Committee, the Health & Human Services
16 Committee, and the Licensed Activities Committee; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty also worked with many local
18 organizations to improve the quality of life for the region and
19 its citizens, including membership in many Chambers of Commerce
20 and Kiwanis Clubs and as a member of the Oak Forest Civil
21 Service Commission; and

22 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty was the recipient of many awards
23 for outstanding service to her community and the citizens of

1 Illinois, including the Theresa Roedl Memorial Award for
2 Volunteerism in 1988, the Outstanding Freshman Legislator of
3 the Year for the Illinois Health Care Association in 1997, and
4 numerous other awards from organizations across the State; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Crotty was a dedicated, committed public
6 servant and an even better person; she might have appeared as a
7 nice, sweet grandmother, treating strangers as if they had been
8 friends for years, but she was a skilled politician who had an
9 instinct like no other; she worked tirelessly to help lift
10 others, from local service agencies serving the homeless to
11 senior citizens; her legacy and accomplishments, as well as
12 warm memories of her positive attitude and endless energy, will
13 last; and

14 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois State Senate
15 appreciate everything former State Senator Maggie Crotty
16 accomplished for the 19th Senate District, the Southland, and
17 the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
20 former State Senator Mary Margaret "Maggie" Crotty and extend
21 our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who
22 knew and loved her; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Senator Crotty as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy.