



HR0452

LRB102 20038 LAW 28863 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Joanne
4 Clare Smith, M.D., who passed away on September 6, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Smith was born in Detroit, Michigan on
6 January 1, 1961; she grew up in West Bloomfield Hills,
7 Michigan; she earned her Bachelor of Science from Oakland
8 University in 1984; she earned her M.D. from Michigan State
9 University in 1988; she pursued her residency at Northwestern
10 University; she later earned her M.B.A. from the University of
11 Chicago in 2000; she was a longtime Hinsdale resident; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Smith was the longtime president and CEO of
13 the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab rehabilitation research hospital
14 in Streeterville, formerly the Rehabilitation Institute of
15 Chicago (RIC); she joined the RIC as a practicing physician in
16 1992; she eventually moved into hospital management; upon
17 earning her MBA, she oversaw the alliance division and
18 increased the hospital's partnerships with other providers,
19 hospitals, and clinics; she was promoted to interim CEO in
20 2006 and soon won the role permanently; she positioned the
21 hospital for a major expansion, a new \$550 million building,
22 in 2013; she oversaw the opening of the new hospital, the
23 Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, in 2017; at the time of her death, she

1 oversaw more than 2,000 clinicians, scientists, and staff; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Smith served as a faculty member of
3 Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine for 25
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Smith was a brilliant leader who helped
6 promote the concept of gathering physicians, scientists,
7 technologists, and clinicians around patients to produce novel
8 approaches and bring research directly to patients in real
9 time; she will be remembered for providing hope to her
10 patients; her legacy will have an impact for generations to
11 come; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Smith is survived by her husband of 33 years,
13 Rory Repicky; her daughter, Claire; her son, Michael; her four
14 sisters; and her three brothers; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we mourn the passing of Joanne Clare Smith, M.D., and extend
18 our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who
19 knew and loved her; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Dr. Smith as an expression of our

1 deepest sympathy.