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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of George Metcalfe Johnson, M.D. of
4 Peoria, who passed away on January 6, 2022; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson was born to Catherine "Georgia" Smith
6 Johnson and George R. Johnson in New Brunswick, New Jersey on
7 March 24, 1951; he graduated from Hope College in Holland,
8 Michigan in 1973; he then graduated from the University of
9 North Carolina School of Medicine at Chapel Hill in 1977; he
10 completed his pediatric residency at the University of
11 Connecticut, where he also served as chief resident, and his
12 infectious disease fellowship at the University of Minnesota;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson was a pediatric infectious disease
15 specialist; he served as a pediatrician in the National Health
16 Service Corps in Huntsville, Alabama; he held faculty
17 appointments at the State University of New York, the
18 University of Connecticut, and the Medical University of South
19 Carolina, where he served as division director, residency
20 program director, and vice chair of Education; he also held
21 faculty positions with the Greenville Hospital System and,
22 most recently, at the University of Illinois College of
23 Medicine at Peoria and OSF Children's Hospital; for over 42

1 years, he worked tirelessly for the children under his care,
2 most notably during the HIV/AIDS epidemic as a frontline
3 clinician and researcher; he was a gifted physician and
4 diagnostician and contributed to over 150 publications and
5 research articles; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson received many awards and distinctions
7 throughout his career, including national recognition for his
8 HIV research; he served on the Committee of the Pediatric AIDS
9 Clinical Trial Group (PACTG) in various capacities, including
10 being elected to the executive committee and holding various
11 leadership roles within PACTG; he was selected to America's
12 Top Pediatricians by Consumers' Research Council of America
13 and named to the Best Doctors of America; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson loved his wife, his family and
15 friends, his patients, the Tar Heels, music, butterflies, and
16 falling asleep five minutes into a movie; he adored his sons
17 and stepson and was most proud of their generosity; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson was a generous, civic-minded and
19 socially conscious humanitarian who always cared for and
20 supported those around him; he will be remembered as a
21 gentleman, a scholar, and a man who was thoughtful, kind, and
22 sweet; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson is survived by his wife, Colleen Otto
2 Johnson; his sons, Derek (Jody), Ian, Matthew, Michael, and
3 Scott; his brother, Alan Johnson (Lilly); his stepson,
4 Dennison David (Ashley) Thomas; his granddaughter, Olivia
5 Galloway Thomas; his brother-in-law, Daniel M. Otto; his
6 treasured dog, Reilly; and a circle of extended family and
7 friends; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
10 George Metcalfe Johnson, M.D. and extend our sincere
11 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
12 him; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Dr. Johnson as an expression of our
15 deepest sympathy.