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LRB102 22407 ECR 31547 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 Eric Jakobsson of Urbana, who passed away on October 28, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Columbia College in 1959, a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the Columbia University School of Engineering in 1960, and a Ph.D. in Physics from Dartmouth in 1969; he did postdoctoral work with the Department of Physiology at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine from 1969 through 1971; and

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WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson began a 50 year association with the University of Illinois in 1971; his list of educational and career accomplishments is long and rich; he served as a professor of biochemistry, molecular and integrative physiology, biophysics and computational biology, bioengineering, and neuroscience; his main area of research was in studying microscopic cells, especially nerve cells called ion channels that allow chemicals to go in and out of nerve cells; a valued collaborator with a far-ranging intellect and a probing mind, he saw excitement and potential in everything and was generous in his encouragement of others; and

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1 WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson was appointed to the Urbana City
2 Council in 2010; he was later elected alderman of Ward 2, which
3 covers much of the area west of downtown, and served until he
4 resigned in June of 2020; he was also a representative of the
5 public arts and culture commission, the Urbana Free Library
6 board, and the traffic commission; and

7 WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson was active in politics, the
8 McKinley Presbyterian Church, and many community
9 organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson loved his family dearly; he and
11 his wife wanted a big family and opened their home to fostering
12 children; they eventually adopted six more children; he will
13 be remembered as a devoted husband and father, a brilliant
14 scientist and mentor, a political bridge-builder, and all
15 around nice guy; and

16 WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson was preceded in death by his son,
17 Garret; and

18 WHEREAS, Eric Jakobsson is survived by his wife of 58
19 years, Naomi; and seven children; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
2 Eric Jakobsson and extend our sincere condolences to his
3 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Eric Jakobsson as an expression of
7 our deepest sympathy.