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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 Michael Stokely Kelly, who passed away on September 2, 2021 at the age of 52; and

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WHEREAS, Michael Kelly was born in Chicago on October 25, 1968; at age four, his family moved to Oak Park, Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Michael Kelly attended the Hawthorne and Holmes Elementary Schools and Oak Park and River Forest High School; and

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WHEREAS, During high school, Michael Kelly wrote for the school newspaper, acted in stage plays, and was the junior class president; the highlight of these years was his directorial debut for the Little Theater; while casting for the play Bleacher Bums, he selected multiple students who had no prior acting experience; and

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WHEREAS, Michael Kelly completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan in 1991; he later earned a master's degree in Social Work and, in 2006, a doctoral degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, In his career as a helping professional, Michael

1 Kelly served as a family therapist, a youth minister at St.  
2 Giles Family Mass, and a school social worker for 14 years,  
3 first at Indian Trail Middle School in Addison and later at  
4 Mann and Lincoln Elementary Schools in Oak Park; and

5 WHEREAS, After completing his doctoral degree, Michael  
6 Kelly entered academia by joining the faculty of the School of  
7 Social Work at Loyola University; in 2020, he was named the  
8 Lucian Welch and Carol Matusak Endowed Chair; and

9 WHEREAS, Michael Kelly was also a prolific writer in the  
10 social work field; he published more than 100 articles, and  
11 one of his books was recently translated into Japanese; and

12 WHEREAS, Michael Kelly earned a fellowship at the Oxford  
13 University Symposium for School-Based Family Counseling; in  
14 that role, he edited the School Mental Health Journal and the  
15 International Journal of School Social Work; all the while, he  
16 mentored countless students in the United States and Canada;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Michael Kelly ran in a number of marathons,  
19 including those in Chicago, Rome, and Ireland, and competed in  
20 a total of 18 international races; and

21 WHEREAS, Michael Kelly was preceded in death by his

1 father, Richard Kelly; and

2 WHEREAS, Michael Kelly is survived by his wife, Lucy Fox;  
3 their three sons, Benjamin, Isaac, and Alfred; his mother,  
4 Karen Kelly; his brother-in-law, Daniel (Susan) Fox; his  
5 parent-in-laws, Win and Alan Fox; and his countless relatives  
6 and friends; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
9 Michael Stokely Kelly and extend our sincere condolences to  
10 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family of Michael Kelly as an expression of  
14 our deepest sympathy.