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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 Illinois State Representative and United States Congressman John Edward Porter of Alexandria, Virginia, formerly of Evanston, who passed away on June 3, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Congressman Porter was born in Evanston on June 1, 1935; he graduated from Evanston Township High School in 1953; he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1953 to 1954; he received his Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts from Northwestern University in 1957; he earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School in 1961; he served in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1958 to 1964; he was admitted into the Illinois Bar in 1961; and

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WHEREAS, Congressman Porter was an honor law graduate attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. from 1961 to 1963 before entering private practice in Evanston from 1963 to 1979; and

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WHEREAS, Congressman Porter served as a member of the Illinois General Assembly from 1973 to 1979; while in office, he was successful in passing legislation that created government inducements to carpooling, denied pension rights to

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1 public officials convicted of a felony, prohibited flammable
2 tents and outdoor-use fabrics, and required disclosure of
3 secret beneficiaries of land trusts involved in business with
4 state government; and

5 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter was elected as a Republican to
6 represent the 10th District of the State of Illinois in the
7 96th U.S. Congress by special election, filling the vacancy
8 caused by the resignation of U.S. Representative Abner J.
9 Mikva; he was reelected to the 10 succeeding Congresses,
10 representing the North Shore, the northwest suburbs, and
11 eastern Lake County of Illinois from January 22, 1980 to
12 January 3, 2001; and

13 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter was a member of the U.S. House
14 Appropriations Committee and served as chairman of the
15 Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
16 Services, Education, and Related Agencies; under his
17 leadership, the educational and health-related programs of
18 federal agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health
19 (NIH), flourished; he additionally founded and co-chaired the
20 Congressional Human Rights Caucus, a voluntary association of
21 more than 250 members of Congress working to identify,
22 monitor, and end human rights violations worldwide; he also
23 co-authored landmark legislation, created Radio Free Asia, and
24 served as chairman of Global Legislators Organized for a

1 Balanced Environment, known as GLOBE USA; and

2 WHEREAS, Upon his retirement from Congress, Congressman
3 Porter became a partner in the international law firm Hogan
4 Hartson, now Hogan Lovells, where he represented Northwestern
5 University in Washington, D.C. for several years, securing
6 more than \$45 million in projects for the university; and

7 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter served as a delegate to the
8 Republican National Convention in 1996; he additionally served
9 on several boards over the years, including the PBS
10 Foundation, the First Focus Campaign for Children, the
11 Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the
12 Bretton Woods Committee, the Inter-American Dialogue, the
13 Council on Foreign Relations, the RAND Corporation, and the
14 American Heart Association; he previously chaired the
15 non-profit Research!America and served as a trustee of the
16 Brookings Institution and the John F. Kennedy Center for the
17 Performing Arts; and

18 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter received an honorary Doctor of
19 Laws degree from Northwestern University in 1999 and the
20 Public Welfare Medal by the National Academy of Sciences in
21 2014; he was chosen as the namesake of NIH's Neuroscience
22 Research Center, which was dedicated in March 2014, and a
23 professorship of biomedical research at Northwestern

1 University's Feinberg School of Medicine was established in
2 his name in 2001; and

3 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter was known as a fiscal
4 conservative who held moderate social views; he will be
5 remembered for his tireless advocacy of biomedical research,
6 the environment, and international human rights; and

7 WHEREAS, Congressman Porter is survived by his spouse of
8 15 years, Amy McGuire Porter; his children and stepchildren,
9 John, David, Annie, Robyn, Donna, McKay, and Michelle; and his
10 14 grandchildren; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 former Illinois State Representative and United States
14 Congressman John Edward Porter and extend our sincere
15 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
16 him; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Congressman Porter as an expression
19 of our deepest sympathy.