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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to thank
3 Senator Antonio "Tony" Muñoz for his 23 years of service to the
4 1st Senate District as a member of the Illinois General
5 Assembly; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz grew up in the Pilsen and Little
7 Village communities of Chicago, where, at an early age, he
8 developed a passion for bettering the lives of his family
9 members and others; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz trained at the U.S. Army Airborne
11 School, where he learned the importance of motivation and
12 dedication, and served in the U.S. Army with the 82nd Airborne
13 Division; and

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WHEREAS, During his tenure in the General Assembly, Sen.
15 Muñoz prioritized practical legislation rather than political
16 agendas, making him well known as a senator who could work with
17 members on both sides of the aisle; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz sponsored nearly 2,000 bills, with
19 more than 800 being signed into law; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz passed laws to ensure military service

1 members have rights, protections, opportunities when returning
2 to civilian life, and sufficient resources for their mental
3 and physical health; and

4 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz, while working as a Chicago police
5 officer and seeing firsthand that crime and gang activity were
6 tearing apart his community, focused on keeping children in
7 schools and off the streets by working to procure funding for
8 after-school programs, making it a crime for street gangs to
9 recruit on school grounds, and making it illegal for a sex
10 offender to live within 500 feet of a school, park, daycare, or
11 child facility; and

12 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz concentrated on aiding law enforcement
13 officials, creating the Law Enforcement Officer Bulletproof
14 Vest Act that sets standards for bulletproof vests worn by
15 officers to ensure protection and safety; he also fought to
16 protect first responders by spearheading a number of measures
17 that tightened Scott's Law to protect first responders on the
18 side of the road; and

19 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz has been a strong supporter of law
20 enforcement officials and their families, expanding the use of
21 Police Memorial grant dollars to include scholarships for
22 spouses of fallen police officers; and

1 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz has long been an advocate for
2 extending state procurement opportunities to minorities,
3 women, veterans, and people with disabilities by voting to
4 increase the minimum wage numerous times and supporting the
5 ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment; and

6 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz co-founded the Latino Caucus, which
7 consists of members in the Illinois Senate and the Illinois
8 House of Representatives working to develop and pass
9 legislation that has a positive impact on the lives of the more
10 than two million Latinos living in Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz co-sponsored and supported historic
12 legislation, overhauling the State's education funding formula
13 to provide fair funding for all schools, and he was the lead
14 sponsor for the initiative to give in-state tuition to all
15 students residing in Illinois; and

16 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz worked to give job applicants greater
17 opportunities, sponsoring a notable measure that requires an
18 employer or employment agency to wait until an applicant has
19 been selected for an interview or until after a conditional
20 job offer has been extended before inquiring about,
21 considering, or requiring disclosure of criminal history; and

22 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz served as the Senate Assistant

1 Majority Leader since 2009 and chaired the Licensed
2 Activities, Transportation, Executive Appointments, and
3 Veterans Affairs Committees; and

4 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz received numerous awards of
5 appreciation and for leadership, including Legislator of the
6 Year, for his dedication and hard work to the 1st Senate
7 District and the State; and

8 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz decided to resign from the Illinois
9 Senate after 23 years of service to the 1st Senate District and
10 the people of Illinois, during which he established himself as
11 a knowledgeable, pragmatic, and committed public servant; and

12 WHEREAS, Sen. Muñoz's future plans include supporting
13 causes about which he is passionate and spending more time
14 with his family; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Senator
17 Antonio "Tony" Muñoz for his dedicated service to the people
18 of Illinois and for his significant contributions to the
19 State, and we wish him the best in his future endeavors; and be
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Sen. Muñoz as an expression of our esteem and
2 respect.