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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of their  
4 former colleague, Senator Ralph Dunn, of DuQuoin, on Monday,  
5 May 3, 2004; and

6           WHEREAS, Ralph Dunn was born in 1914 in Pickneyville to  
7 Arthur and Florence Dunn; he graduated from Pickneyville High  
8 School in 1933; he married Ellen Fones in 1935; she preceded  
9 him in death in 1999; and

10           WHEREAS, Senator Dunn first became involved in politics  
11 when he worked in Chuck Percy's 1964 run for governor; in 1968,  
12 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention; in  
13 1969, he was elected to become a member of the Illinois  
14 Constitution Convention; at the convention, he fought for the  
15 right of Illinoisans to bear arms and to prevent efforts that  
16 allowed branch banking; and

17           WHEREAS, In 1972, Senator Dunn successfully ran for a seat  
18 in the House of Representatives, where he served from 1973 to  
19 1984; he moved to the Senate in 1985 and served until his  
20 retirement in 1995; during his tenure as a legislator, Senator  
21 Dunn was most proud of helping to raise the drinking age to 21,  
22 protecting gun owner rights, and advocating for Southern  
23 Illinois University at Carbondale; and

24           WHEREAS, Senator Dunn and his two younger brothers started  
25 a ready-mix business, a trucking company, a car dealership, and  
26 owned a radio station; they were all pilots; and

27           WHEREAS, Senator Dunn was active in his local Cerebral  
28 Palsy chapter; he was known as a gentleman and for his  
29 willingness to stand up for what he believed in; and

1           WHEREAS, The passing of Senator Ralph Dunn has been deeply  
2 felt by many, especially his children, Reverend Jerry Dunn,  
3 Catherine Sunquist, Florence Dunn-O'Neal, and Janet Johnson;  
4 his brother James Dunn; and his numerous grandchildren and  
5 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 mourn the passing of Senator Ralph Dunn, our former colleague,  
9 and we extend our sincere condolences to his friends, family,  
10 and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12 presented to the family of Senator Ralph Dunn as an expression  
13 of our deepest sympathy.