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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Robert "Bob" Zimmerman, former mayor of San Jose, on Sunday, April 27, 2003; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman was born on August 27, 1927, in Mason City to Florin "Bud" and Nettie Atherton Zimmerman; he married Joy Surgeon on August 14, 1954; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman valiantly served his country during World War II in the U.S. Navy; he played saxophone and clarinet to work his way through college and then continued playing big band style music in ballrooms and country clubs throughout the Midwest to supplement his teacher's salary; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman taught instrumental and vocal music in San Jose from 1953 until 1985 and served as San Jose Mayor from 1960 until 1992; for five years during his teaching career, he was the boys' baseball coach; he was honored by his former students in 2002 at the San Jose Alumni Banquet as in the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus"; he is responsible for starting the first swing choir for schools in central Illinois and conducted the San Jose marching, jazz, and stage bands; at least 13 of his former students went on to teach or make their careers in music; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Zimmerman will be remembered as a frugal mayor who managed the village's finances well; after he retired as mayor, a new park district was formed and the ball field on the grounds was named Zimmerman Field in his honor; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman was a member of San Jose United Methodist Church, where he directed the bell choir and Good

1 News Choir; he was also a member of the American Legion in  
2 San Jose, the Delavan-San Jose Masonic Lodge, Phi Sigma  
3 Epsilon and Blackfriars Music fraternities, and the Illinois  
4 Music Educators Association, where he served on the State  
5 board; he also served as a Republican precinct committeeman;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The passing of Robert "Bob" Zimmerman has been  
8 deeply felt by all who knew him, especially his wife, Joy  
9 Zimmerman; his son, Robert William "Bill" (Holly) Zimmerman;  
10 his daughter, Jill Zimmerman; and his five grandchildren;  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing  
14 of Robert "Bob" Zimmerman and recognize the profound  
15 influence his life had on his many students, his community,  
16 and his family; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of Mr. Zimmerman as an expression of  
19 our deepest sympathy during their time of loss.