

## 1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of  
3 Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of former  
4 Representative John J. Houlihan of Palos Heights, who died  
5 on July 24, 2003 at the age of 80; and

6 WHEREAS, Through his leadership and dedication, Mr.  
7 Houlihan personified the nobility of public service; and

8 WHEREAS, John J. Houlihan served his county with dignity  
9 and distinction during World War II; as a recent high  
10 school graduate, Mr. Houlihan enlisted in the United States  
11 Marine Corps in 1942, after the Japanese attack on Pearl  
12 Harbor; Mr. Houlihan went into combat in the Pacific Theater  
13 and fought in such engagements as the Battle of Midway and  
14 the Invasion of Bougainville; during his military service, Mr.  
15 Houlihan was wounded in action by artillery fire, which  
16 resulted in the amputation of his leg; because of his  
17 heroism and sacrifice, Mr. Houlihan was awarded the Purple  
18 Heart, Marine Corps Medal, and the Asian Pacific Medal with 3  
19 Bronze Stars; and

20 WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his military service, Mr.  
21 Houlihan earned his bachelor's degree in business and  
22 accounting from DePaul University and began working in the  
23 Cook County Clerk's Office; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1965, Mr. Houlihan was elected to the  
25 Illinois House of Representatives, where he represented the  
26 41st District for 8 years; and

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Houlihan was an ardent advocate for his  
28 fellow veterans; he was appointed by Governor Dan Walker to  
29 serve as the first Director of Veterans' Affairs, for the  
30 Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, he was instrumental  
31 in developing programs for the U.S. Department of Veterans

1 Affairs, and, up until his final illness, he was the  
2 supervisor of the Cook County Veterans Assistance Commission;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Houlihan's death is a grievous loss to all  
5 who knew and loved him, particularly his wife, Vernal, his  
6 daughters, Maureen and Patricia, his sons, Michael, William,  
7 Terence, Denis, and Brendan, and his nine grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, Honor and duty were his hallmarks, and his every  
9 endeavor was characterized by a commitment to serve his  
10 country, his State, and his fellow man; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we express our  
13 profound sorrow at the death of John J. Houlihan, that we  
14 join with his fellow citizens in mourning the loss of this  
15 exemplary public citizen, and that to his bereaved family, we  
16 extend out heartfelt sympathy; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of John J. Houlihan along with our  
19 sincerest condolences.