



1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois  
3 learned with regret of the recent death of Loretta "Lollie"  
4 Drew of Waukegan; and

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Drew was a long time civic activist in  
6 Waukegan and had dozens of friends sprinkled all over the  
7 country; as she entered her twilight years and few  
8 contemporaries remained, she continued to forge new  
9 friendships; her life was remarkable in the variety of her  
10 activities, but the constant was her warmth and concern for  
11 others; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Drew's roots were in Chicago's North Park  
13 Swedish neighborhood; she was raised by her widowed father and  
14 nearby aunts and uncles, which gave her an unbreakable family  
15 and community loyalty; and

16 WHEREAS, Having absorbed grammar and penmanship from her  
17 older sister, Mrs. Drew skipped two primary grades; she  
18 attended Hibbard High, where she hung out with a group of honor  
19 students who called themselves the "Silent Six"; as others were  
20 attracted to their group they amended their name to the "Silent  
21 Six and Supplement"; and

22 WHEREAS, Money problems in the Depression kept her from  
23 graduating after completing three years at Northwestern; she  
24 worked for Marshall Fields and for the phone company in the  
25 1920s; after being set up with him in 1938, she married Richard  
26 Drew; he preceded her in death; and

27 WHEREAS, During World War II, Mr. Drew was stationed in  
28 South Dakota as an administrator of the Selective Service;  
29 Lollie loved the Black Hills; she took courses in geology and  
30 developed a lifelong interest in the Sioux at the Red Cloud

1 Indian School; and

2 WHEREAS, The 1950s and 1960s were high points of civic  
3 activism for Lollie; she was a charter member and President of  
4 the League of Women Voters, was active in the Christian Family  
5 Movement, the Girl Scouts, the YWCA, the Panel of American  
6 Women, the Friends of the Library, and Women for Peace; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Drew made her home on McAree Rd. into a  
8 perfect place for organizational meetings and uncounted family  
9 parties; baking bread and cakes were part of her weekly  
10 routine, and a collection of antiques made for interesting  
11 conversation; she preserved farm wagons and horseshoeing  
12 implements as an informal museum of the Drew past in her  
13 garage; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Drew traveled extensively; in the 1950s she  
15 was the initiator of family camping trips to the great national  
16 parks of the west; in later years, she and Rich went by motor  
17 home as far as Alaska and rafted down the Colorado River; they  
18 took trips in search of both Swedish and Irish roots; and

19 WHEREAS, As a result of two eye injuries, Mrs. Drew was  
20 blinded at the age of 86; she learned to type at a computer  
21 keyboard and collaborated with her son, Bill, in the  
22 development of the talking computer, which she used daily for  
23 email correspondence with friends near and far; she founded a  
24 Low Vision Support Group and was given a service award from the  
25 American Academy of Ophthalmology; and

26 WHEREAS, The passing of Loretta "Lollie" Drew has been  
27 deeply felt by many, especially her children, Judge Jane Waller  
28 and her husband, Lake County States Attorney Mike Waller; Nora  
29 Renzulli, who is an attorney in New York; William and wife,  
30 Gloria; and John and wife, Lauren; her grandchildren, Patrick  
31 and John Waller, Richard and William Drew, Jr., Dante and

1 Christina Renzulli, and Nick Drew; and her numerous nieces and  
2 nephews; therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
5 Loretta "Lollie" Drew, and we extend our sincerest condolences  
6 to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be  
7 it further

8       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the family of Mrs. Drew as an expression of our  
10 deep sadness for their loss.