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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mildred Yvonne Fitzgerald, widow of State Representative Wayne Fitzgerald, on April 19, 2005 in Sesser; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Fitzgerald was born September 1, 1913, in Sesser, to Howard Burgess Young and Daisy Violetetti Bartlow Young Tackitt; she graduated from Goode-Barren Township High School; and

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WHEREAS, She married Wayne Fitzgerald on March 4, 1942, in St. Louis; after his untimely death in 1965, she never remarried; she retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1973 after 38 years of service; and

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WHEREAS, Affectionately referred to as Sesser's First Lady, she was a very community-minded person who was always willing to help; she truly believed in education and wanted to see the young people of the community have a chance to further their education; she made a big difference in the lives of many people and she tirelessly devoted herself to many community projects, but she did not seek recognition or credit for herself; and

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WHEREAS, She served as Worthy Matron of the Mary V Chapter of Eastern Star; she was a member and president of the Sesser Woman's Club; she was a member of the Illinois Women's Federation Club, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sesser Senior Citizens, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Rend Lake Foundation Board where she established an endowment fund to provide an annual scholarship in honor of her late husband, and the Goode-Barren Historical Society; she was a member and Sunday school teacher at First United Methodist Church of Sesser; she was instrumental in compiling and

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1 publishing the 1976 Bicentennial history of Sesser and  
2 renovating the Sesser Historic Opera House; she received the  
3 Golden Deeds Award from the Sesser Area Chamber of Commerce in  
4 1984; she received the Presidential Award from the Rend Lake  
5 Foundation Board; she donated a bicycle to the St. Jude  
6 Bike-a-thon each year; and she worked diligently with the  
7 fund-raising for the remodeling of the Goode Township Community  
8 Building; and

9 WHEREAS, The passing of Mildred Yvonne Fitzgerald is felt  
10 by all who knew and loved her, especially her step-nephews,  
11 Steve and Patty Young, Mike and Vergie Young, and Dennis and  
12 Paige Young; her sister-in-law, Helen Young; her aunt, Mary  
13 Bartlow; her cousins, Herb Sr. and Billie Winemiller, Herb Jr.  
14 and Gwen Winemiller and daughters, Tiffany Winemiller and Misti  
15 Winemiller; her sister-in-law, Josephine Fitzgerald Junkins;  
16 her nephew, Richard Fitzgerald, son of William Fitzgerald;  
17 and her special caretakers, Margaret Goessman and Verna Queen;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, She was preceded in death by her husband, her  
20 parents, and her stepbrother, Roy Odle Young; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that even as her death is  
23 mourned, we give thanks for the blessing of Mildred Yvonne  
24 Fitzgerald's life and extend our sincere and heartfelt  
25 condolences to her family, friends, and community; and be it  
26 further

27 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
28 presented to her family as an expression of our deepest  
29 sympathy.