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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Reverend Robert E. Webber of Sawyer, Michigan, who passed away on April 27, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, Reverend Webber was born in 1933 in the United States, but spent the first seven years of his life with his Baptist missionary parents in a small town in the former Belgian Congo; he received his B.A. from Bob Jones University in Greenville, North Carolina, and advanced theological degrees from three other leading seminaries, including Covenant Theological Seminary and College in St. Louis; and

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WHEREAS, Reverend Webber began teaching in 1960 at Covenant Theological Seminary and College; he went on to teach at Wheaton College from 1968 until 2000, when he moved to Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard and became director of the worship and spirituality program; in 1998, he founded the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in Orange Park, Florida, which offers graduate programs in Christian theology; and

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WHEREAS, Reverend Webber was one of the leading experts on how Christians have worshipped over the centuries; he wrote more than 40 books on theology and was the editor of the

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1 seven-volume "The Complete Library of Christian Worship", a
2 series of books that chronicle the history of Christian worship
3 from its beginnings; and

4 WHEREAS, Reverend Webber was known for his ability to take
5 history and his scholarship and convert it into language that
6 had meaning for today's readers and scholars; he devoted
7 himself fully to his work despite a hard-fought battle with
8 cancer; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
11 his family and friends, the passing of Reverend Robert E.
12 Webber; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Reverend Robert E. Webber as an
15 expression of our sympathy.