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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 Rosemary Berkel Crisp of Marion, who passed away on December 1, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp was born in Chicago to Albert and Rose Berkel; she graduated from St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Evansville, Indiana in 1958 and from the John Robert Powers Model and Finishing School in St. Louis in 1981; and

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WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp worked as a nurse at Marion Memorial Hospital in Marion from 1958 until 1960; she married Harry L. Crisp II in 1960 and focused her energies on raising a family, community service, and growing the family business, Pepsi MidAmerica Company, which she co-owned with her husband; and

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WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp served as a volunteer nurse for the American Red Cross, Lions Club, and Girl Scouts from 1970 until 1985; even after she ceased practicing as a nurse in the mid-1980s, she continued to renew her nursing license every two years; and

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WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp was a co-founder of the

1 Southern Illinois Women's Health Conference; she also served on
2 the board of directors for the Hands of Hope clinic, which
3 offers free health care to needy families; and

4 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp served on dozens of boards,
5 foundations, and committees during her lifetime; she was a
6 Trustee of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois; she was Director of
7 the National Institute of Health, the National Institute of
8 Nursing Research in Washington, D.C., the Southeast Missouri
9 State University Foundation in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, the
10 John A. Logan College Foundation in Carterville, The University
11 of Tennessee Women's Philanthropy Alliance, the Marion Civic
12 Center Foundation in Marion, the National League for Nursing in
13 New York, New York, and the Society for Advancement of Women's
14 Health Research in Washington, D.C.; and

15 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp was the recipient of many
16 awards in recognition of her lifelong devotion to improving the
17 quality of healthcare services across Southern Illinois and
18 beyond; she was honored as "Citizen of the Year" by the Greater
19 Marion Area Chamber of Commerce; the nursing facility at
20 Southeast Missouri State University was renamed the Rosemary
21 Berkel Crisp Hall of Nursing in recognition of her many
22 accomplishments; and in October 2007, she was honored by
23 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale with its
24 prestigious Inspiring Women of Achievement Award; and

1 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp was a member of the St.
2 Joseph Catholic Church in Marion; and

3 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp was preceded in death by her
4 parents, Albert and Rose Berkel; and

5 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp is survived by her husband
6 of 47 years, Harry L. Crisp II; her son, H. Lee Crisp III and
7 wife, Stacie; her daughters, Cynthia Crisp Dickens and husband,
8 Brian Keith, Cara Crisp Sims and husband, Chris, Catherine
9 Crisp Newbold and fiance, Greg Wilson, Carole Crisp Schwarm and
10 husband, Mark, and Cheryl Crisp Rabbitt and husband, Bob; her
11 brother, Jim Berkel and wife, Sue; her sisters, Pat Pulley and
12 husband, Barney, and Delores McCuan and husband, LaVerne; her
13 grandchildren, Brandee Newbold Cohlmeier, Justin Tyler
14 Newbold, Cameron Newbold, Ryan Rabbitt, Olivia Rabbitt, Taylor
15 Rabbitt, Alexandra Rabbitt, Hunter Dickens, Harrison Dickens,
16 Hayden Dickens, Hallie Crisp, Harry L. Crisp IV, Christopher
17 Palmer Sims, Luke Sims, Jacob Schwarm, and Jeremiah Schwarm;
18 and her great-grandchild, Elaine Cohlmeier; and

19 WHEREAS, Rosemary Berkel Crisp will be remembered by all
20 who knew and loved her as a kind and giving person whose faith,
21 hope, and love inspired everyone she met; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
3 her family and friends, the passing of Rosemary Berkel Crisp;
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Rosemary Berkel Crisp as an
7 expression of our sympathy.