



HR0506

LRB096 13213 GRL 27845 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Terrence
4 L. Barnich of Chicago, who was killed on May 25, 2009 while
5 serving his country as Deputy Director of the Iraq Transition
6 Assistance Office; and

7 WHEREAS, Despite a highly successful career in State
8 government and the private sector, Terry Barnich chose to
9 devote much of his time and energy in recent years to the
10 valiant effort to bring democracy to the people of Iraq,
11 serving at great personal sacrifice and ultimately giving his
12 life to advance the cause of peace and democracy in the region;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich arrived in Iraq in the tumultuous
15 early days of the surge led by General David Petraeus and
16 remained in the country, taking a leave from his duties as
17 Chief Executive Office of New Paradigm Resources Group in order
18 to pursue his mission in Iraq; and

19 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich went to Iraq following a
20 distinguished career in the public sector, which included
21 serving as Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission from
22 1989 to 1993; and

1 WHEREAS, Prior to his service on the Illinois Commerce
2 Commission, Terry Barnich served as General Counsel to Governor
3 James Thompson, where he provided a wide array of legal advice
4 to the Governor, his staff, and various cabinet directors; he
5 also lent his expertise in analyzing and drafting legislation,
6 executive orders, and administrative review; and

7 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's lifelong commitment to justice
8 was at the heart of his service when, as counsel to the
9 Governor in the 1980s, he gained a high public profile
10 assisting in the investigation of an alleged rapist, which
11 eventually led to the exoneration of the individual on the
12 basis of DNA evidence and a commutation of the sentence by the
13 Governor; and

14 WHEREAS, Prior to his government service, Terry Barnich
15 worked as an associate of the law firm of McDermott, Will &
16 Emery from 1979 to 1983 and at Rudnick & Wolfe from 1983 to
17 1984, where he concentrated in the practice of commercial
18 litigation; and

19 WHEREAS, After his service with Illinois government, Terry
20 Barnich was hired by the Bell Atlantic Corporation to lead its
21 national strategy for securing the necessary 48-state
22 regulatory approvals of its proposed merger with the TCI cable

1 company; and

2 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich then formed a consulting practice in
3 Chicago - New Paradigm Resources Group, Inc. - which
4 concentrated on providing regulatory, public policy, and
5 competitive strategic planning advice to companies operating
6 in formerly regulated industries, such as the retail energy and
7 telecommunications fields; and

8 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich has been widely published on a
9 variety of utility and political topics, in such journals as
10 *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Journal of Commerce*, *Public*
11 *Utilities Fortnightly*, *The Washington Times*, and the *Chicago*
12 *Tribune*; and

13 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich grew up in Chicago's Hegewisch
14 community and graduated from Washington High School; he earned
15 his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in
16 Washington, D.C. and his law degree from Fordham University in
17 New York City; and

18 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich is survived by his mother, Genevieve
19 Ketel; his brother, Bruce Barnich; his sister, Rochelle
20 Barnich; and his many friends around the world; and

21 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's commitment to the greater good is

1 reflected in the comments of friends and former colleagues,
2 upon learning of his death; former Illinois Governor James
3 Thompson, for whom he worked as chief legal counsel, said *"It's*
4 *not often you find people who are experienced and know how to*
5 *make things work, but also have a sense of public service and*
6 *the obligation of citizenry. He had both."*; former Treasurer
7 Judy Baar Topinka, for whom he served as campaign manager for
8 her 2006 gubernatorial bid, said *"He wanted to make the world*
9 *and everything around him better."*; his friend and former
10 Baghdad colleague, Philip O'Connor, said *"He fought his battles*
11 *with a briefcase and a computer... he was a true patriot and*
12 *hero..."*; and

13 WHEREAS, A large and diverse universe of friends and
14 colleagues are left with innumerable memories of Terry
15 Barnich's camaraderie, quick wit, self-effacing and irreverent
16 sense of humor, and ability to bring an element of fun to even
17 the most serious and stressful situation; and

18 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich is fondly remembered as a true
19 patriot who was committed to his mission of reconstructing the
20 physical, economic, and intellectual infrastructure of Iraq
21 with an unrelenting focus on the goals of spreading democracy,
22 improving world peace, and relieving the suffering of the
23 people of Iraq; and

1 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's legacy will endure as his friends
2 and colleagues throughout the world, despite their grief and
3 sadness, recommit themselves to follow their passions, embrace
4 the importance of public service, and live life courageously;
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 mourn the passing of Terry Barnich and his service to the State
9 of Illinois, the United States of America, and the citizens of
10 the world, while at the same time celebrating his legacy of
11 quiet, hard-working leadership and commitment to the greater
12 good; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family and friends of Terry Barnich with our
15 sincere sympathies and our abiding respect, admiration, and
16 love for a great man who was doing great things.