



HR0054

LRB097 06214 GRL 46933 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Edmund J.
4 "Eddie" O'Connor of Lake Forest, who passed away on January 17,
5 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, Eddie O'Connor was born in 1925 and raised on the
7 west side of Chicago; his father, William, was a Chicago
8 policeman who originally hailed from Limerick, Ireland and his
9 mother, Elizabeth, was from County Cork, Ireland; he worked his
10 way through school as both an Andy Frain usher at Chicago
11 sporting events and as a conductor on the elevated train
12 system; he attended St. Ignatius College Prep before enlisting
13 in the United States Marine Corps, where he served as a tail
14 gunner on a dive bomber in the Pacific Theatre during World War
15 II; he later attended DePaul University as an undergraduate and
16 law student on the G.I. Bill; and

17 WHEREAS, Eddie O'Connor, along with his late brother,
18 William "Billy" O'Connor, traded agricultural commodities at
19 the Chicago Board of Trade ("CBOT") and started the O'Connor
20 and Company clearing firm in 1959; Eddie and Billy O'Connor
21 played key roles in the management of the CBOT for many decades
22 and backed hundreds of local traders; and

1 WHEREAS, Eddie O'Connor was the driving force behind the
2 creation of the Chicago Board Options Exchange ("CBOE") in
3 1973; the CBOE helped transform Chicago and the State of
4 Illinois into a global trading center on par with New York,
5 London, and Hong Kong; it was Eddie O'Connor's vision that made
6 the CBOE a reality; and

7 WHEREAS, Eddie O'Connor was the beloved husband of the late
8 Patricia O'Connor, nee Hoskins; and

9 WHEREAS, Eddie O'Connor was the loving father of Dan
10 O'Connor, Chris (Roger) Lane, Patti (Michael) Mergener,
11 Matthew (Trish) O'Connor, and Marty (Maureen) O'Connor; the
12 dear grandfather of Kaitlin, Will, and Madeline O'Connor, Amy
13 and Corry Lane, Jeremiah and Izzy Mergener, and Ned, Bridget,
14 and Murphy O'Connor; he is also survived by his many nieces and
15 nephews; his trusted family friend, Maria Diaz; and his many
16 friends at Bob O'Link Golf Club; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
20 Edmund O'Connor; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Edmund O'Connor as a symbol of our

HR0054

-3-

LRB097 06214 GRL 46933 r

1 sincere sympathy.