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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 Margaret "Maggie" Daley, who passed away on November 24, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Margaret Ann Daley was born Margaret Corbett to Patrick and Elizabeth Corbett on July 21, 1943, in Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania; she was their youngest child and only daughter; and

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WHEREAS, She attended St. Francis Academy High School and the University of Dayton; a job with the Xerox Corporation led her to Chicago for what she promised would only be a short time; and

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WHEREAS, She met Richard M. Daley at a Christmas party in 1970; they fell in love and were engaged by the following November; they were married at the St. Francis Retreat House in Pennsylvania on March 25, 1972, with her brother John as the celebrant of the mass; and

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WHEREAS, The couple honeymooned in Europe; while in Rome they received congratulations and well wishes from Pope Paul VI; upon their return home they settled in Bridgeport, just blocks from Richard's boyhood home; and

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1 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Daley welcomed their first child,
2 Nora, in 1973 and their first son, Patrick, 2 years later; in
3 1978, their third child, Kevin was born with spina bifida, a
4 disease with which he struggled until it took his young life in
5 1981; while she mourned the loss of her son, she felt that the
6 experience helped her and her family to appreciate what is
7 really important and enjoy each day; and

8 WHEREAS, The Daleys welcomed their youngest child,
9 Elizabeth, in 1983; the family would enjoy the attractions
10 Chicago had to offer, but they were just as likely to spend
11 family time playing a board game; and

12 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley became increasingly active in the
13 civic and cultural life of the city; she served on the
14 auxiliary board of the Art Institute and the women's board of
15 the Chicago Rehabilitation Institute; when her husband became
16 mayor in 1989, Mrs. Daley's opportunities for involvement in
17 civic projects increased; she soon became involved with the
18 preservation of the Chicago Cultural Center; and

19 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley teamed with Lois Weisberg, then
20 commissioner of cultural affairs, to launch Gallery 37, a
21 program aimed at promoting arts training and jobs for Chicago
22 youth; this project evolved into After Schools Matters, a

1 private program to provide teens with educational and
2 career-oriented activities in such areas as sports and
3 technology; she served as chair of its board of directors; and

4 WHEREAS, She was appointed by President Clinton to the
5 President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities; she also
6 served as a trustee for the University of Chicago Laboratory
7 Schools, Saint Ignatius College Preparatory Academy, Mount
8 Carmel High School, and the Francis Xavier Warde Schools; and

9 WHEREAS, She served as President of Pathways Awareness
10 Foundation, an organization dedicated to raising awareness
11 about the benefit of early detection and early therapy for
12 children with physical movement differences; and

13 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley provided leadership in numerous
14 other non-profit and civic organizations, including the Chapin
15 Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago, the
16 Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive
17 Cancer Center at Northwestern University, the Children at the
18 Crossroads Foundation, and the Golden Apple Foundation; and

19 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley bravely and heroically waged a 9
20 year battle with cancer; even during her struggle she remained
21 positive and was quick to downplay her struggles and call
22 attention to the needs of others; and

1 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley will be remembered for the love she
2 and Richard shared throughout their 39 year marriage, her
3 dedication to her family, her unwavering sense of humor, and
4 her tireless work to preserve and further the civic and
5 cultural life of the City of Chicago as its longtime First
6 Lady; and

7 WHEREAS, Margaret Daley is survived by her husband,
8 Richard; her son, Patrick; her 2 daughters, Nora Daley Conroy
9 (Sean) and Elizabeth "Lally" Daley Hotchkiss (Samuel); and 3
10 grandchildren, Margaret, John, and Kevin; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
13 her family, friends and the City of Chicago, the passing of
14 Margaret Daley; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Margaret Daley as a symbol of our
17 sincere sympathy.