



SR0640

LRB097 20728 KXB 67147 r

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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 William "Bill" Coburn Fox of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, formerly of Champaign, who passed away on February 29, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, He was born April 2, 1925, in Carthage, New York, the son of Reba Coburn Fox and William Mould Fox; he married Alice Boulware on September 4, 1948; and

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WHEREAS, He entered Williams College at age 16, leaving after 2 years to serve in the Navy; he was the leader of an elite Underwater Demolitions Team that helped secure Iwo Jima and Okinawa; his unit received the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions at Iwo Jima and he was awarded the Silver Star for his service; and

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WHEREAS, After the war, he returned to Williams College and graduated cum laude; he later graduated from Harvard Business School in June 1949 with an MBA degree; he started his career with Climax Corporation in Washington, D.C.; and

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WHEREAS, In 1950, he and Alice moved to her hometown of Champaign, and he joined his father-in-law in his business, White Line Laundry; after managing White Line, he joined First

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1 National Bank as vice president and then moved to president in
2 1971 and bank chairman in 1977; he led the bank's growth and
3 expansion culminating in a merger with other Illinois banks to
4 form Midwest Financial Group, now PNC bank, retiring in
5 December 1988; and

6 WHEREAS, During his business career, he served as chairman
7 of Carle Foundation and was a board member at Clifford Jacobs
8 and Gill Company; he was appointed a board member by former
9 Governor Edgar to the Illinois State Board of Investment; he
10 was active in local charities, serving as treasurer for
11 McKinley YMCA; he was an elder of First Presbyterian Church and
12 served as trustee for the endowment fund; and

13 WHEREAS, After retirement, he and his wife moved to Hilton
14 Head; he enjoyed golf, travel, and gardening; he volunteered as
15 a board member of the Cypress Residential Living Community and
16 as treasurer of Volunteers in Medicine, a not-for-profit
17 serving more than 30,000 patients annually on Hilton Head
18 Island; and

19 WHEREAS, William Fox is survived by his wife, Alice; his
20 sister, Virginia Fox Moeller; his sons and his daughter, Peter
21 B. Fox (Kim), Elizabeth (Robert) McMahan, Hardin Andrew Fox
22 (Muffy), and William Bruce Fox (Jennifer); his 10 grandchildren
23 and one great-grandchild; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
3 his family and friends, the passing of William Fox; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of William Fox as a symbol of our
7 sincere sympathy.