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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are
3 saddened to learn of the death of Eunice Marie Krans Leitch of
4 Des Moines, Iowa, who passed away on August 5, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch was born on January 8, 1926 in
6 Wakefield, Michigan; her parents were Enoch and Ella Krans; and

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WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch excelled in school, where she
8 developed a love of books and a special talent for speech and
9 debate; in 1943, she set off alone on an over 500-mile bus trip
10 to attend Michigan State University, where she majored in
11 English and worked in the cafeteria to pay for her tuition; and

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WHEREAS, While attending a friend's wedding in 1947, Eunice
13 Leitch met Duncan Leitch, a World War II veteran and fellow
14 student at Michigan State University; on their first date, they
15 shared a hot fudge sundae and continued that tradition for
16 almost every week of their nearly 66-year marriage; and

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WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch taught high school English in the
18 1940s before leaving the profession for many years to raise her
19 children; in the 1960s, she returned to teaching and spent
20 several years shaping the lives of 2nd and 3rd graders at
21 Pleasant Hill Elementary School in East Peoria; and

1 WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch loved the Upper Peninsula and made
2 many happy memories exploring in the woods, ice skating on
3 Sunday Lake, and climbing a 100 foot-tall fire lookout tower
4 set among the pine trees near her home; she also loved
5 chocolate, dill pickles, cats, and hunting for treasures at
6 craft shows and antique shops; and

7 WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch was preceded in death by her parents
8 and her siblings, Russell Krans, Marvin Krans, and Carol Krans
9 Gembolis; and

10 WHEREAS, Eunice Leitch is survived by her husband, Duncan
11 Leitch; her children, Illinois State Representative David
12 Leitch, Paul Leitch, Brian Leitch, and Carol Leitch Fries; her
13 extended family, Marlene, Soledad, and Debra Leitch and Tim
14 Fries; her 11 grandchildren, Sarah (Todd) Stille, Ben Leitch,
15 Betsy (Matt) Kunz, Duncan B. Leitch, Sally (Jared) Woodruff,
16 Evan (Sara), Tim, Jeff, and Amy Leitch and Lauren and Doug
17 Fries; her great-grandchildren, Bennett, Dallyn, and Reid
18 Stille; her sister-in-law, Jean Krans; and her nieces and
19 nephews, Betsy Coville, Amy Penegor, Mark Krans, and Lisa
20 Zegers; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE

1 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we, along with her family and
2 friends, mourn the passing of Eunice Marie Krans Leitch; and be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Eunice Leitch as an expression of
6 our sympathy.