



HR0035

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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 James A.
4 "Jim" Maloof, who passed away on January 19, 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, As a bumper sticker proclaimed the City of
6 Peoria's demise with "Will the last person in Peoria Turn out
7 the Lights", James Maloof's enthusiasm and his optimistic
8 "Forward Peoria" platform swept him into office in 1985; he
9 served for 3 four-year terms; and

10 WHEREAS, Thanks to James Maloof's leadership in restarting
11 the Peoria area economy, the City of Peoria was designated an
12 All American City in 1989 and 1992; and

13 WHEREAS, James Maloof's passion for service called him to
14 support his friend, Danny Thomas, in joining the first
15 ALSAC/St. Jude board of directors in 1958, and serving for the
16 rest of his life; during his tenure, he oversaw the creation of
17 the world-renowned St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; in
18 1960, he initiated the first Teen March for St. Jude, which has
19 been embraced nationwide; he also held or participated in St.
20 Jude fundraisers in 35 states and exuded his enthusiasm for the
21 now famous Memphis-to-Peoria Run; and

1 WHEREAS, James Maloof was most proud of bringing a St. Jude
2 Affiliate to Peoria, whose board he chaired until his death;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, After serving in the United States Army Air Corps
5 during World War II, James Maloof worked at his family
6 dry-cleaning business before starting Jim Maloof Realty in
7 1969, which stands today as a prominent central Illinois firm;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, James Maloof enjoyed great popularity as he sang
10 at hundreds of wedding and funerals; he also sang with the
11 Orpheus Club for 22 years and led the annual Journal Star
12 Christmas Sing at the Courthouse for 40 years; and

13 WHEREAS, James Maloof was known as "Governor Jim Edgar's
14 favorite mayor" and was appointed to the Illinois Human Rights
15 Commission for two terms by Governor Edgar; and

16 WHEREAS, James Maloof was born on October 18, 1919, in
17 Peoria; his parents were Nimer and Sarah Maloof; he married
18 Gertrude "Trudy" Burson on June 28, 1941; and

19 WHEREAS, James Maloof was preceded in death by his loving
20 wife; his parents; his brothers, Abraham, Mitchell, and
21 Fredrick; and his son, Mark; and

1 WHEREAS, James Maloof is survived by his sons, Michael and
2 Nicholas Maloof; his daughter, Janice Maloof; his
3 grandchildren, Peter Thomas Maloof, Sarah Maloof, Lisa Maloof
4 Hall, Christian Maloof, Katie Maloof, Lydia Maloof, Nick J.
5 Maloof, Micheline Maloof, and Markie-Marie Maloof; and his
6 great-grandchildren, Coralie Hall, Iona Hall, Aidan Maloof,
7 Erin Maloof, and Meghan Maloof; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we mourn the passing of James A. "Jim" Maloof and extend our
11 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
12 and loved him; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of James Maloof as an expression of our
15 deepest sympathy.