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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 James A. Maloof of Peoria, who passed away on January 19, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, James Maloof was born on October 18, 1919, in Peoria to Nimer and Sarah (Zyne) Maloof; he married Gertrude "Trudy" Burson on June 28, 1941, in Peoria; he served in the Air Force during World War II as an Acting Master Sergeant; and

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WHEREAS, After being discharged, he returned to the family dry cleaning business and served as president of Maloof Cleaners from 1946 to 1968; in 1969 he began Jim Maloof/Realtor, which became one of the foremost residential real estate firms in the Peoria area; and

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WHEREAS, James Maloof was an avid athlete; he played in the Sunday Morning Baseball League for years and enjoyed all sports such as baseball, golf, and fishing; he served in various volunteer activities throughout his life, but was best known for his singing; he sang at hundreds of weddings, funerals, with the Peoria Orpheus Club for 22 years, and he led the Annual Journal Star Christmas Sing at the Peoria Courthouse for 4 decades; and

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1 WHEREAS, James Maloof's crowing achievement was his
2 participation in St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; he was
3 first appointed to the ALSAC/St. Jude Board of Directors in
4 1958 and continued to serve for the rest of his life; in 1960
5 he initiated the first St. Jude Teen March, started the Memphis
6 to Peoria Run, and created new methods of reaching people for
7 fundraising such as the St. Jude Telethon in Peoria in 1978; he
8 held or attended thousands of St. Jude benefits locally and
9 nationally, representing St. Jude and raising money in over 35
10 states throughout the country; and

11 WHEREAS, James Maloof set his sights on the mayorship of
12 Peoria on Thanksgiving Day 1984; he served 3 terms and a total
13 of 12 years; his vision, "Forward Peoria!", consisted of
14 committees of citizens working on various community issues and
15 challenges, which resulted in improvements in the quality of
16 life of those living in Peoria; Peoria was named an all
17 American City by 1989 and again in 1993; after retiring as
18 mayor, Governor Jim Edgar appointed him to the State of
19 Illinois Human Rights Commission, and he was appointed to a
20 second term by Governor George Ryan; and

21 WHEREAS, James Maloof was preceded in death by his parents;
22 his wife, Gertrude; his brothers, Abraham, Mitchell, and
23 Fredrick Maloof; and his son, Mark; and

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

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

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