



SR0136

LRB098 10989 GRL 42083 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 Justice Mary Ann McMorrow, the first woman to serve on the Illinois Supreme Court and its first female chief justice, who passed away on February 23, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow was a pioneer in the law profession during a career that spanned more than half a century; her legal career began when she was the lone woman in her graduating class at the School of Law at Loyola University in 1953; she became the first woman to try felony cases as an assistant Cook County State's attorney and continued her "first woman" status when her colleagues on the Supreme Court chose her as chief justice; throughout her career, she was a mentor to other women in the law; and

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WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow was elected to the Circuit Court in 1976; in 1985, she went on to serve on the Appellate Court, where she was the first woman to serve as chair of the Executive Committee; she was elected to the Supreme Court in 1992 and served on the court until she retired on July 5, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow served as chief justice of the Illinois Supreme Court from September 2002 to September 2005;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow was a gifted pianist; she was  
3 active in various charities and foundations and her church, St.  
4 Mary of the Woods, was a huge part of her life; she enjoyed  
5 opera, restaurants, and a good chocolate dessert; she graduated  
6 from Immaculata High School and Rosary College (now Dominican  
7 University) in River Forest; and

8 WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow was preceded in death by her  
9 husband, Emmett; and

10 WHEREAS, Justice McMorrow is survived by her daughter, Mary  
11 Ann, and her sister, Frances; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
14 Justice McMorrow and extend our sincere condolences to her  
15 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of Justice Mary Ann McMorrow as an  
19 expression of our deepest sympathy.