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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 Alison O'Hara Barasa of Glenview, who passed away on July 20, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa was born on May 9, 1963, in Oak Park; she was a graduate of Oak Park and River Forest High School; she received her Bachelor of Arts from Colorado College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado Law School; and

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WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa was the Chairman of the Board of the Follett Corporation and a Follett family member; she joined the Follett Corporation in the late 1990s as Senior Council in the company's legal department, and was later promoted to Assistant General Counsel; she was named to the Board of Directors in 1999, and in 2011 was elected as the first female Chairman of the Board in the Follett Corporation's 140-year history; in 2012, she became the acting President and Chief Executive Officer following the retirement of Chuck Follett, and led the search for a successor; and

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WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa began her public sector law career as an Assistant State's Attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney Office in 1988, and in 1991, she became

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1 Assistant Attorney General with the Illinois Attorney
2 General's Office; from 1995 to 1997, she served as Senior
3 Council with the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary
4 Commission of the Illinois Supreme Court; and

5 WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa also worked in the private
6 sector in Chicago during the 1990s; she served as an associate
7 at Jackson Lewis and as Co-Chair of the Appellate Department of
8 Cassidy Schade; between 1996 and 1998, she was an adjunct
9 professor at Loyola University's Chicago School of Law; and

10 WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa life outside of work was
11 centered on her family; she enjoyed shopping with her daughter
12 Amanda, spring skiing in Idaho, and watching her sons Trevor
13 and Tucker attempt to ski for the first time; she treasured her
14 time on their boat at Lake Geneva and watching her family go
15 "tubing"; her favorite place in the entire world was Sandpoint,
16 Idaho, where she would spend time with her family and took no
17 prisoners in card games; and

18 WHEREAS, Alison O'Hara Barasa is survived by her husband,
19 James A. Barasa; her children, Amanda, Trevor, and Tucker; her
20 stepchildren, Gina, Eliza, and Jimmy; her mother, Ariel Follett
21 O'Hara; her father, J. Philip O'Hara (Patricia); her siblings,
22 Keith (Dena), Julie (Dennis White), and John (Amy); and her
23 entire extended family including niece, nephews, aunts,

1 uncles, and cousins; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
4 Alison O'Hara Barasa, and extend our sincere condolences to her
5 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Alison O'Hara Barasa as an
9 expression of our deepest sympathy.