



SR0566

LRB098 13936 GRL 48481 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 Robert Joseph Gerloff, who passed away on September 10, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Gerloff was born on July 14, 1926; his parents were August and Helena (nee Stake) Gerloff; he married Eleanor Lorraine Eckert on May 24, 1952 at Grace Lutheran Church in Woodstock; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Gerloff began running his family's farm in 1944 at the age of 17 after his father passed away; he eventually purchased the farm from the family estate; after marrying, his wife became an active part of his dairy business, resulting in a partnership that lasted throughout their married life; in 1972, he and his wife sold their first registered bull for use in artificial insemination; the sale of registered dairy cattle from their small family farm to Holstein breeders on 5 different continents has left a lasting genetic legacy in the global dairy industry; their dairy herd was also routinely among the top herds in the county and the State in dairy production; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Gerloff was a longtime member of the Woodstock Progressive Milk Producers Association, a farmer-run

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1 cooperative, and served for many years on the organization's
2 Board of Directors; after his retirement from milking in 1996,
3 he became executive secretary of the Association and held the
4 job part-time until his passing; he served as a member and an
5 officer on many agriculture-related boards, including the
6 McHenry-Lake County Holstein Association and the McHenry-Lake
7 Dairy Herd Improvement Association; he also volunteered as a
8 docent at the McHenry County Historical Society, sharing his
9 knowledge of farming with school groups; and

10 WHEREAS, Robert Gerloff was preceded in death by his
11 parents; his wife; and his twin sister, Ruth; and

12 WHEREAS, Robert Gerloff is survived by his sons, Bruce
13 (Lois) Gerloff and Brian (Carole) Gerloff; his daughters,
14 Pamela Gerloff, Jane Gerloff, and Lisa (Bill) Banker; his
15 grandchildren, Matthew, Sarah, Daniel, Robert, and Joseph
16 Gerloff; his sister, Evelyn Hart; his sister-in-law, Edna
17 Steadman; and his many nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
20 family and friends, mourn the passing of Robert Joseph Gerloff;
21 and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Robert Gerloff as an expression of
2 our sympathy.