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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 Vera H. Fernandes of Peoria, who passed away on December 4, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Vera Fernandes was born in New Haven, Connecticut on March 30, 1947 to Michael H. and Vera H. (nee Sakovich) Markitan; and

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WHEREAS, Vera Fernandes began her career working store security at Bergner's department store; she then worked for the Bradley University Police Department, where she was among the first group of officers to complete the Illinois State Police Academy training; after completing training, she worked for the Peoria Police Department, where she worked in vice and patrol and was a violent crime detective and neighborhood police officer; she retired in 2011; while employed as a Peoria police officer, she received 8 letters of appreciation, 2 letters of commendation, a Distinguished Service Award, and the American Legion Meritorious Service Award; during her tenure in law enforcement, she worked part-time for L'Oreal as a Reset Coordinator for nearly 18 years; and

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WHEREAS, Vera Fernandes was a member of the Peoria Police Benevolent Association and the International Association of

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1 Women Police (IAWP) for 25 years, where she sponsored countless
2 women to attend conferences all over the world; her love of
3 travel with the IAWP took her to more than 6 countries and to
4 numerous United States' cities; and

5 WHEREAS, Vera Fernandes' dedication and devotion to her
6 family, her friends, and those who knew her was demonstrated by
7 her generosity and by her love that was sprinkled into her
8 cooking and chocolate chip cookies; she always dreamed of
9 retiring to her birthplace in Connecticut near the ocean; and

10 WHEREAS, Vera Fernandes is survived by her daughter, Cheryl
11 Ann Fernandes; her son, Michael E. Fernandes; her 2
12 grandchildren, Haley and Cody Fernandes; her sister, Renee
13 Markitan; and numerous cousins on the east coast; she valued
14 her friendships with Vince and Mickey Wieland and their family
15 as well as with her countless brothers and sisters in blue;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
19 Vera H. Fernandes, and extend our sincere condolences to her
20 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Vera Fernandes.