



SR0601

LRB099 12474 MST 35855 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to
3 learn of the death of Joseph "Mayor Joe" W. Strzelczyk, who
4 passed away on May 17, 2015; and

5 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe was born on May 21, 1939 to Chester and
6 Loretta (nee Szrabajki) Strzelczyk; and

7 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe served honorably in the United States
8 Army during the Vietnam War from 1962 to 1963; he served 5
9 years in the U.S. Army Reserve until 1968; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe launched his own businesses in 1976 as a
11 self-employed "trader" at the Chicago Board of Options
12 Exchange, where he also owned a prestigious Trading Seat; and

13 WHEREAS, In the 1980s, Mayor Joe shared his passion for
14 softball through writing columns, hosting a cable television
15 program and radio show, and coaching the North American Pro
16 Softball league in 1980; he was inducted into the Softball Hall
17 of Fame in 2012; and

18 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe had a passion for helping people, which
19 led him to spend much of his life working with young people as
20 a baseball coach and eventually entering a career in public

1 service; and

2 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe entered into public service in 1978,
3 working as a Special Recreation Instructor for the Chicago Park
4 District; and

5 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe started his tenure as Summit Village
6 Trustee in 1990; he was elected Mayor in 1997 and re-elected to
7 that position in 2001, 2005, 2009, and 2013; and

8 WHEREAS, During Mayor Joe's tenure, he secured more than
9 \$2.5 million in Community Development Block Grant funding,
10 which he used to improve streets and strengthen Summit's
11 infrastructure; and

12 WHEREAS, Under Mayor Joe's direction, Summit was able to
13 build a 78-unit, \$14 million Senior Housing Development; in
14 2013, Summit was also included in the revenue sharing agreement
15 with the Rivers Casino in Des Plaines, which brought in more
16 than \$604,000 to the Village; and

17 WHEREAS, Thanks to Mayor Joe's leadership, new businesses
18 moved to Summit, the village's debt was reduced, and crime made
19 a steady decline; and

20 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe was proud of Summit's diversity and

1 strived to ensure the Village remained well-balanced and all
2 voices were heard; and

3 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe dedicated his entire life to the people
4 of Summit and served the Village with sincere kindness,
5 honesty, integrity and an enduring commitment to improve Summit
6 and the lives of its residents; his legacy will go unmatched;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe was preceded in death by his parents,
9 and a brother Chester (Trudy) Strzelczyk; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe is survived by his 3 nephews, Chet
11 (Stacy), John (Kim), and Ken (Flo) Strzelczyk; his 5
12 great-nieces and nephews, Bret, Matthew, Kyra, Johnny, and
13 Justin; his 2 godchildren, C.J. and Emma; his aunt, Gloria
14 Strzelczyk; and his cousins Bernie (Margaret) Migas, Diane
15 (Steve) Kusenda, Kathy (John) Rayson, and many more; therefore,
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
19 Joseph "Mayor Joe" W. Strzelczyk, and we extend our sincere
20 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
21 him; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Mayor Joe as an expression of our
3 deepest sympathy.