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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 F. Toalson, who passed away on September 15, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Toalson was born on September 7, 1932 in Dodge City, Kansas; his parents were Frank B. and Helen K. Toalson; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Toalson graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in political science in 1954; after graduation, he served with the United States Marine Corps as a commissioned officer from 1954 to 1957, serving in the First Marine Division and as an executive officer for a Marine Detachment Afloat aboard the USS Columbus; after his military service, he earned his master's degree in park and recreation administration from Indiana University in 1958; and

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WHEREAS, After completing a year as an intern in the Philadelphia park system, Robert Toalson moved to Oak Park, where he served as Director of Recreation for 11 years; in 1970, he became the general manager of the Champaign Park District; under his leadership, the National Park and Recreation Association's Gold Medal for Excellence was awarded once to Oak Park and 3 times to the Champaign Park District; in

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1 both Oak Park and Champaign, he was awarded the title of
2 Outstanding Citizen; and

3 WHEREAS, Robert Toalson served as president of the Illinois
4 Park and Recreation Society, president of the National
5 Recreation and Park Association, and founding member and
6 president of the Academy for Parks and Recreation
7 Administration; he also taught at Indiana University, the
8 University of Illinois, and Oregon State University; and

9 WHEREAS, Robert Toalson was the co-author of
10 "Administration of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services"
11 with Dr. Lynn Rodney, professor at the University of Oregon;
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13 WHEREAS, Following his retirement, Robert Toalson served
14 on the Board of Commissioners and as President of the Champaign
15 County Forest Preserve District; he served as chairman of the
16 Board of Directors of the United Way of Champaign County; he
17 also served as president of the Champaign-Urbana Kiwanis Club
18 and as a member of the Session at McKinley Presbyterian Church;
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20 WHEREAS, Robert Toalson was preceded in death by his
21 parents; and

1 WHEREAS, Robert Toalson is survived by his wife, Dianne;
2 his daughter, Lauren Smith; his son, Mark Toalson; his
3 grandchildren, Julia and William Smith, Kirby and Noah Toalson,
4 and Christopher Toalson; his great-granddaughter, Isabelle
5 Chamberlain; and his brother, William Toalson; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
8 family and friends, mourn the passing of Robert F. Toalson; and
9 be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Robert Toalson as an expression of
12 our sympathy.