



SR1410

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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 Mary Jean Gallagher, who passed away on December 29, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher was born in Hillside, New Jersey to Michael Jacob and Adelia Amelia Onan Bure on May 21, 1931; she received a Bachelor of Science from the College of Saint Elizabeth in Morristown, New Jersey; and

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WHEREAS, Upon moving to Waukegan in her early twenties, Mary Jean Gallagher found employment as a dietician at St. Therese Hospital in Waukegan; she married James Gallagher, Sr. on January 30, 1954 at Immaculate Conception Church in Waukegan; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher and her family owned a cabin on the Mississippi River, where the family would frequently gather for bonfires, fireworks, cookouts, and hunt for turtles, frogs, and toads; she had near lifelong friends who were part of the "Birthday Club", and close neighbors, whose company she treasured; her favorite flowers were dandelions picked by children; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher was a member of St. Anastasia

1 Roman Catholic Church in Waukegan since 1957 and she worked
2 tirelessly over the years with a number of groups, including as
3 Eucharistic Minister of Care at Victory Hospital, on the St.
4 Anastasia School Board, and as President and a Board Member of
5 the Sanctuary Society; she also worked with the Boy Scouts and
6 attended bingo every Wednesday and volunteered at the soup
7 kitchen on Mondays, with 8 graduations along the way; and

8 WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher was also very active outside
9 St. Anastasia; she served as President and Board Member of
10 Altrusa International of Lake County, as a Board Member of the
11 Family Services of Lake County, as a Board Member of the Health
12 Department, as President and a Board Member of the Catholic
13 Women's Club of Lake County, as 3rd Vice-President of
14 Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (Cardinal Cody Medal
15 Woman of the Year, Chicago), as a member of the American
16 Association of University Women (AAUW), as an AAUW
17 Representative, as a Deputy Registrar of Lake County (Chamber
18 of Commerce Award), and as a member of the Fraternal Order of
19 the Eagles; she worked for many years as a volunteer for a
20 crisis hotline, Contact; she was a founding member of the
21 Literacy Volunteers of Lake County and was instrumental, along
22 with fellow Church Women United of Waukegan members, in
23 starting the Crop Walk; for years she was involved with
24 Interfaith Chaplaincy of Lake County, which held annual
25 memorial services for the indigent of Lake County, as she

1 believed no one should have to depart this world alone; and

2 WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher was preceded in death by her
3 parents; her sister, Ruth Ann O'Brien; her brother-in-law, Jack
4 O'Brien; her brother, James Michael; and her grandchildren,
5 Thomas Joseph and Brianna; and

6 WHEREAS, Mary Jean Gallagher was the beloved wife of James,
7 Sr.; the mother of James, Mark (Darlene), Ruth Ann, Jean Marie
8 (Kurt), Mary Elaine (Michael), John (Elaine), Diane Lynn
9 (Andy), and Kate Lynn (Scottie); the sister of John (Dawn)
10 Bure; the grandmother of Kathy (Ramon), Steven (Cristi),
11 Christopher, Sarah (Caleb), Megan (Chris), Kathleen (Brock),
12 Christina, James, Daniel, Andrew, Caryn (Alex), Sean, Angelyn,
13 Lynsey, Nicholas, Riley, Mikayla, and Curtis; the
14 great-grandmother of Xavier, Abel, Ayden, Addison, Cassidy,
15 Taylor, Lawrence, Olivia, Christopher, Connor, Cody, and
16 Kevin; and godmother, aunt, cousin, neighbor, and friend to
17 all; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
20 Mary Jean Gallagher, and extend our sincere condolences to her
21 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
22 further

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