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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to express their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Gertrude C. Zalar, who passed away on December 7, 2000; and

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WHEREAS, Gertrude, lovingly known as Trude, was born in Joliet, Illinois on February 13, 1921 to Helen and Matthias Pisut; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Zalar attended SS Cyril and Methodius Grade School and Joliet Township High School, where she was an honor student; following her graduation, she applied her skills as secretary at Joliet High School's superintendent's office, at the offices of E.I. DuPont at the Elwood Ordinance Plant, at the Purity Baking Company in Chicago where she functioned as executive secretary, and at the USO office during World War II; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Zalar was active in numerous civic organizations during her life, dedicating herself as a Cub Scout and Brownie leader at the Roosevelt School in River Forest, as a treasurer of the Roosevelt P.T.A. in River Forest, as a member of the Women's Auxiliary Board of Garfield Park Hospital in Chicago, and with the Riverside Golf Club in Riverside, Illinois from 1954 through 1978; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Zalar was an avid swimmer, golfer, bowler, and skier; she also exhibited demonstrable talent in art study, photography and finances; her pleasures in life included working on the newspaper's crossword puzzle, the bridge column, and playing the piano; and

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WHEREAS, A number of special events have been organized on Gertrude Zalar's behalf and each recognize her in a special way; these include The Gertrude P. Zalar Leadership

1 Series on Alzheimer's Disease at the Loyola University
2 Medical Center in Maywood, Illinois, which has been held
3 annually; The Gertrude P. Zalar Scholastic Award for Academic
4 Excellence, given to the woman student graduating with the
5 highest grade-point average at Joliet Township High School's
6 Central Campus; the Friends of the Alzheimer's Caregivers
7 Award Program in California, recognizing Gertrude P. Zalar as
8 a annual sponsor; The Gertrude P. Zalar Alzheimer's Care
9 Foundation established in her memory and honor to improve the
10 care offered to residents of long-term care facilities
11 housing those who are affected by Alzheimer's Disease; and
12 the "model" home - The Gertrude P. Zalar - State of the Art
13 Facility - An Alzheimer's Center of Excellence, which will
14 carry her name as a place of compassionate care for all
15 residents with Dementia; and

16 WHEREAS, The passing of Gertrude C. Zalar will be deeply
17 felt by all who knew and loved her, especially her husband,
18 Richard Zalar; her son, Richard Jr. (wife, Paula) Zalar; her
19 daughter, Barbara Judy (husband, Ronald) Wesoloski; her two
20 brothers, Clement (wife, Mary) Pisut and Emery (wife, Rae)
21 Pisut; her sister, Theresa (husband, Douglas) Burns; her
22 grandchildren, David Richard and Diana Wesoloski; her
23 numerous nieces and nephews; and her cousins; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL
25 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
26 all who knew her, the death of Gertrude C. Zalar of Joliet,
27 Illinois; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
29 presented to the family of Gertrude C. Zalar.