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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 Jean Annette Fox Burkholder of Urbana, who passed away on June 12, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Jean Burkholder was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Theodore Harold and Edith (Barnes) Fox on July 23, 1929; she graduated from the Philadelphia High School for Girls in 1947; she enrolled in Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana and began studying areas that became lifelong concerns: segregation and discrimination, educational psychology and family dynamics, and community organization; she married Donald Lyman Burkholder in June of 1950 and the family settled in Urbana in 1955; and

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WHEREAS, From 1956 to 1968, Jean Burkholder was a member and chair of the Champaign County League of Women Voters Committee on Housing, which sought to study and address unfair housing practices and shameful housing conditions in predominantly minority neighborhoods; she also focused on housing issues as a member of the Council for Community Integration and the Neighborhood Services Committee; she worked to improve social and mental health services as a member of the Champaign County Committee for the White House Conference on Children and Youth; in 1968, she became the first

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1 chair of the Urbana Human Relations Commission; she became
2 involved in the Urbana Parent-Teacher-Student Association,
3 serving for a time as chair of the Council of the Urbana PTSA
4 and on committees that assisted in recruiting and hiring
5 superintendents for the district; she was a strong supporter of
6 the arts; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1975, Jean Burkholder was elected to the Urbana
8 School Board, where she served for 22 years until 1997; upon
9 her retirement from the board, the Urbana School District
10 honored her by naming the administrative center on North Race
11 Street as the Jean F. Burkholder Administrative Service Center;
12 her papers are in the Champaign County Historical Archives; and

13 WHEREAS, Jean Burkholder was preceded in death by her
14 daughter, Kathleen Linda Burkholder; her husband, Don; her
15 brothers-in-law Robert, John and Wendell Burkholder; and her
16 sister-in-law, Helen Dale; and

17 WHEREAS, Jean Burkholder is survived by her son, J. Peter
18 Burkholder; her son-in-law, P. Douglas McKinney; her son,
19 William F. Burkholder; her daughter-in-law, Joanne (McLean)
20 Burkholder; her granddaughter, Sylvie Kathleen Burkholder; her
21 sisters-in-law, Anne Burkholder, Donna Burkholder, and Leona
22 Burkholder; her brother-in-law, Ernie Dale; and 17 nieces and
23 nephews; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Jean Annette Fox Burkholder, and extend our sincere condolences
4 to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Jean Burkholder as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.