



SR1254

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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 James R. Bowers of Bloomington, who passed away on December 5, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Bowers was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to James J. and Katherine Baker Bowers on November 29, 1928; he graduated from Penn Hills High School in Pittsburgh and attended Pennsylvania State University for one year before serving in the United States Navy; he earned his bachelor of science and master of science degrees from Illinois State University; he married Jo Ann C. Ruffing on August 9, 1958; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Bowers taught physical education at Bloomington Junior High School and Bloomington High School for 37 years; during those years, he also coached golf, football, and wrestling at the high-school level; he was dedicated to instilling discipline, responsibility, and respect in his students and student athletes; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Bowers was inducted into several wrestling and coaching halls of fame, including the Illinois State University Athletics Hall of Fame, the Penn Hills High School Athletics Hall of Fame, and the District 87 Hall of Fame; he also received several coaching and wrestling awards; and

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1 WHEREAS, In retirement, Jim Bowers enjoyed golfing and
2 traveling in the United States and abroad with his wife; he
3 especially enjoyed his vacations spent in Perdido Key, Florida
4 with family and friends; he also continued to take pleasure in
5 attending local sporting events, especially those in which his
6 grandchildren were participants; and

7 WHEREAS, Jim Bowers was preceded in death by his son, Paul
8 Bowers; and his brother, Robert J. Bowers; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim Bowers is survived by his wife, Jo Ann; his
10 sons, Jim Bowers Jr., Jeff (Stephanie) Bowers, and Kurt
11 (Stephanie) Bowers; his grandchildren, Jessica, Justin,
12 Cheyenne, Cameron, Eli, Caleb, Chloe, Kallan, Brynn, Kyleigh,
13 Ava, and Isabel Bowers; his sister, Joan F. Bowers Baacke; and
14 his daughter-in-law, Tamara Shupp; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
17 James R. Bowers and extend our sincere condolences to his
18 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Jim Bowers as an expression of our

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1 deepest sympathy.