



HR0080

LRB104 08266 ECR 18316 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Bruce N.  
4 Cook of Belleville, who passed away on January 2, 2025; and

5           WHEREAS, Bruce Cook, the son of Victor N. and Dorothy  
6 (Thurston) Cook, was born in Parsons, Kansas on February 17,  
7 1940; he was raised in East St. Louis, Illinois; he served  
8 aboard the U.S.S. Bonhomme Richard aircraft carrier in the  
9 U.S. Navy for four years; he attended Southern Illinois  
10 University in East St. Louis and graduated from the University  
11 of Illinois College of Law, where he served as student body  
12 president, was named to the Order of the Coif, and graduated as  
13 valedictorian; and

14           WHEREAS, Bruce Cook opened his own law firm in Belleville  
15        in 1969, where he represented countless working men and women  
16        in personal injury claims, practicing law for more than 55  
17        years; and

18           WHEREAS, Bruce Cook served as a past president of the St.  
19        Clair County Bar Association and the East St. Louis Bar  
20        Association, and he was active with the Dorothy O. Cook  
21        Community Law Center, named after his mother, which houses the  
22        East St. Louis branch of the Land of Lincoln Legal Aid; and

1        WHEREAS, Bruce Cook was recognized as one of the top ten  
2 trial lawyers in the State of Illinois by the National Law  
3 Journal, and he was named a laureate by the Academy of Trial  
4 Lawyers in 2008; and

5        WHEREAS, Bruce Cook served as a committeeman for the  
6 Democratic National Committee and the Democratic State Central  
7 Committee's 22nd and 23rd Congressional Districts from 1988 to  
8 2000; he accompanied U.S. President Jimmy Carter on campaign  
9 visits to Granite City and East St. Louis during Carter's  
10 second presidential campaign; he held an honorary gold card  
11 with Labor Local 100, and he was proud of the work he did with  
12 union members throughout Southern Illinois; and

13       WHEREAS, Bruce Cook enjoyed reading, aviation, including  
14 stunt piloting, snow skiing, bicycling, fishing, playing with  
15 his dogs, and sharing food and wine with friends and family; in  
16 his later years, he loved spending time with his grandchildren  
17 most of all; and

18       WHEREAS, Bruce Cook was a loving and devoted husband,  
19 father, grandfather, and friend; and

20       WHEREAS, Bruce Cook was preceded in death by his parents;  
21 his daughter, Susannah K. Marison; his sister, Elizabeth A.

1       McQueen; and his parents-in-law, Wayne J. and Katherine C.  
2       Dressel; and

3               WHEREAS, Bruce Cook is survived by his wife of 59 years,  
4       Sandra (Dressel) Cook; his sons, Bruce R. Cook and Michael N.  
5       (Kori) Cook; eight grandchildren; his brother, Dr. Victor R.  
6       Cook; his sister, Dr. Jan (Dr. Douglas) Cook-Hansell; his  
7       son-in-law, Matthew Marison; and numerous nieces and nephews;  
8       therefore, be it

9               RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10      HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
11      we mourn the passing of Bruce N. Cook and extend our sincere  
12      condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
13      him; and be it further

14               RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15      presented to the family of Bruce Cook as an expression of our  
16      deepest sympathy.