



HR0626

LRB104 20343 RMO 33795 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Kathryn A. "Kathy" (Wroblewski) Clay of Waukegan, who passed away on January 10, 2026; and

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WHEREAS, Kathy Clay, the eldest child and only daughter of Casimir and Florence (Hosinski) Wroblewski, was born in South Bend, Indiana on April 20, 1938; she was raised in an extended Polish-American family, remaining proud of her heritage throughout her life; she became the first woman in her family to receive a college degree when she graduated from Indiana University in 1960 and later earned her master's degree; she married Harry Clay in 1960 and worked in the Indiana University Music Department until 1962; and

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WHEREAS, Kathy Clay moved to Waukegan with her husband and their daughter, Christina Marie, and began a long and successful teaching career; she taught middle school English and Social Studies in North Chicago, then moved to the elementary level in the Woodland School District; at Woodland, she specialized in reading and became active in the union, including serving as a union representative; after retiring from Woodland at age 68, she returned to work as a reading specialist in several Lake County school districts until

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1 retiring for good at age 75; and

2 WHEREAS, Kathy Clay was active in numerous groups and
3 nonprofit organizations throughout more than 60 years spent
4 living in Waukegan; believing fervently in democracy and the
5 importance of voting, she was active in the League of Women
6 Voters; she was an avid reader and served as treasurer of the
7 Clare Cummings Club, which met regularly to hear authors
8 speak; she worked tirelessly for Friends of the Waukegan
9 Public Library and did everything from heading the
10 organization to sorting through countless boxes of book
11 donations; and

12 WHEREAS, Kathy Clay and her husband traveled to the
13 Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario for many summers,
14 creating wonderful memories for her daughter and fostering a
15 love of theater in her granddaughters; she made trips
16 throughout Europe, as well as to China and Thailand; in
17 Waukegan, she met with old friends for breakfast and
18 conversation every Thursday; supported by her dear friends and
19 a dedicated caregiver in the last 15 years of her life, she
20 continued to blaze her own path and live on her own terms; and

21 WHEREAS, Kathy Clay was preceded in death by her husband,
22 Harry Clay, and her brother, Tom Wroblewski; and

1 WHEREAS, Kathy Clay is survived by her daughter, Christina
2 Marie Clay, MD (Tom Ramsey); her granddaughters, Ellen Morris
3 Palermo (Joe Palermo) and Charlotte Morris; her brothers, Mike
4 Wroblewski (Kris Yacovoni) and Jerry (Crystal) Wroblewski;
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we mourn the passing of Kathryn A. "Kathy" (Wroblewski) Clay
9 and extend our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and
10 all who knew and loved her; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Kathy Clay as an expression of our
13 deepest sympathy.