



SR0283

LRB104 13403 ECR 25749 r

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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 Kelly Maria Nichols of Herrin, who passed away on January 2, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols was born in Renton, Washington on April 26, 1976; she completed massage therapy school in Chicago; she married Scott Anthony Palmer; and

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WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols worked with and fought for patients at Southern Illinois Healthcare, and she was also a supportive colleague at Casey's; and

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WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols was a tireless human rights advocate who demanded racial justice across the country, including in Chicago and Washington, D.C.; she also brought delight to many with her remarkable face painting skills at events throughout Southern Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols was passionate about music and singing; she loved attending concerts, nationally renowned plays, and supporting local theater productions; she also enjoyed being outdoors, especially when observing butterflies and wild turkeys; and

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1 WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols took great pride in helping raise
2 and caring for her family members, and she will be remembered
3 for her dedication to them; and

4 WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols was preceded in death by her
5 grandparents, Anneda Frances Johnson and Anthony Raymond
6 Johnson; her parents-in-law, Geraldine Palmer and John Palmer;
7 and her feline companions, Nena, Shadow, and Piggy Piggy; and

8 WHEREAS, Kelly Nichols, at the time of her passing, was
9 survived by her husband, Scott; her parents, Bobby Akira
10 Nichols and Debbie Mariann Johnson; her grandmother, Mitsue
11 Nichols; her siblings, Christina (Jackie) Guevara, Kimiko
12 (Chase) Nichols-Houston, Monalisa Johnson, Angela (Shannon)
13 O'Malley, Melissa (Jimmy) Palmer, Jennifer Palmer, and Tracy
14 (Betsy) Garcia; her chosen siblings, Becca Spohnholz, James
15 Redden, and Josh Rivera; 15 nieces and nephews; two
16 great-nephews; her friends, Anjelique Curry and Kelly Curry;
17 and her cats, Tabby, Squeakers, and Baby Boy; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
20 Kelly Maria Nichols and extend our sincere condolences to her
21 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
22 further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Kelly Nichols as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy.