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LRB104 13477 MST 25914 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 James Eugene "Jim" Kidder of Dunlap, who passed away on April 15, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Kidder was born in Edgerton, Wisconsin to Earl A. and Louise (Maas) Kidder on August 19, 1940; he attended Merrifield Grade School and Milton High School, where he was influenced by his band teacher who encouraged him to continue to play trumpet; he graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education; he earned a Master of Science in School Administration from Bradley University; while teaching band in Lacon, Illinois, he met his future wife, Floride "Ede" Barnes, and they married on June 6, 1965; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Kidder began his career in retail music in 1965 by joining Byerly Music as a roadman, calling on schools and learning about what helped to build successful programs; a lifelong advocate for music education, he and Ede founded Kidder Music Service in 1971, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Kidder was involved in both national and local organizations; he was on the board of the National

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1 Association of Music Merchants and the board of the National
2 Association of School Music Dealers, where he served as
3 president in 2004 and 2005; he was also on the board of the
4 Peoria Symphony and the Peoria Symphony Foundation, the
5 Heartland Festival Orchestra, and the Wheels of Time Museum;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Jim Kidder loved playing trumpet in the Peoria
8 Area Senior Citizens Band; he never said no when someone asked
9 him to do something and never met a stranger; and

10 WHEREAS, Jim Kidder is survived by his wife, Ede; his
11 children, Beth (Jay) Houlihan and Edelstein and Matthew
12 Kidder; and his grandchildren, Maggie Ann Kidder, Jason
13 Gaughan, Hannah DeBernardi, and Robert Houlihan; therefore, be
14 it

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

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Jim Kidder as an expression of our
22 deepest sympathy.