



SR0359

LRB104 14047 LAW 27179 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Gary E. Pierce, who passed away on
4 June 1, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Gary Pierce was born to Willard and Ruby (Thomas)
6 Pierce in Springfield on February 6, 1943; in his very early
7 youth, his father passed away, and he was then raised by his
8 mother and stepfather, Arlo "Poppy" Griffin; he attended
9 Feitshans High School in Springfield, where he was an all-star
10 basketball player; he then served in the Illinois Air National
11 Guard from 1964 to 1970; he married Barbara "Barb" Means in
12 Peoria on October 31, 1970; and

13 WHEREAS, Gary Pierce worked at Hyster in Peoria before
14 working as a machinist at Komatsu, retiring after 30 years of
15 service; during his career, he was a proud member of
16 International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 158; and

17 WHEREAS, Gary Pierce was an avid reader of mystery and
18 history books, possessing a personal collection of over 1,500
19 novels and historical documentaries; he and his wife, Barb,
20 loved traveling around the globe, often returning to Asia to
21 visit Thailand, Hong Kong, Cambodia, China, and Bali,
22 Indonesia, and spending cherished time with their son in

1 Taipei, Taiwan; and

2 WHEREAS, Gary Pierce was preceded in death by his parents;
3 his stepfather; and his sister, Janice; and

4 WHEREAS, Gary Pierce is survived by his wife of 55 years,
5 Barb; his son, Douglas (Liv) Pierce, along with his lifelong
6 best friend and chosen brother, Dustin Durr; his siblings,
7 Linda (Loren) Larsen and Robert Pierce; his niece, Lori; and
8 his nephews, Lane and Brian; therefore, be it

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

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