



SR0406

LRB104 15199 ECR 28345 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Thomas William "Tom" Ritter of Blue
4 Mound, who passed away on August 20, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter, the son of William H. and Arlone
6 (Deardorff) Ritter, in Decatur on February 12, 1952; he
7 graduated from Blue Mound High School; he received a Bachelor
8 of Science in Agriculture from the University of Illinois
9 Urbana-Champaign; he married Diana D. Virt in 1979; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter worked in the agricultural industry;
11 he served as president of the Macon County Farm Bureau and as
12 one of the longest tenured Illinois Farm Bureau Crop Watchers,
13 reporting weekly in Macon County; he was also a member of the
14 Macon County 4-H Foundation, the Meridian Ag Foundation, the
15 Illinois Soybean Association, the National Soybean Checkoff
16 Board, and the U.S. Grains Council; and

17 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter served as a trustee, an elder, a
18 deacon, and a liturgist at Central Christian Church in
19 Decatur; he also served as a former president and trustee of
20 Richland Community College, a liaison to the Illinois
21 Community College Trustees Association, president of the
22 Meridian School Board and the Blue Mound School Board, and

1 supervisor of Pleasant View Township; he co-organized, as a
2 longtime board member and former president, the annual Blue
3 Mound Fall Festival for many decades; and

4 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter dedicated his life to serving his
5 faith, his family, his community, and the agricultural
6 industry at large; and

7 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter was preceded in death by his parents;
8 his parents-in-law, Carrol and Rea Virt; and his
9 brother-in-law, Mark Hanover; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Ritter is survived by his wife of 46 years,
11 Diana; his sons, Cory (Jan) Ritter, Cole (Ashleigh) Ritter,
12 and Cale Ritter; four grandchildren; his sister, Nancy
13 Hanover; his stepfather, Glen Dalluge; and his
14 siblings-in-law, Daniel (Margaret) Virt, David (Rita) Virt,
15 and Dena Vincent; therefore, be it

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

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Tom Ritter as an expression of our
2 deepest sympathy.