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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Sriram Sonty, M.D., F.A.C.S., who
4 passed away on June 8, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty was born in Ramachandrapuram, East
6 Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh, India on July 10, 1946; he
7 studied medicine at Andhra Medical College in Visakhapatnam
8 from 1963 to 1969, and he interned at King George Hospital in
9 Visakhapatnam; he then completed his post-graduation studies
10 and residency in ophthalmology at the All India Institute of
11 Medical Sciences in New Delhi, India in 1974; he married
12 Susarla Sarada Purna on February 27, 1975; he moved to the
13 United States in May 1975; he obtained further training in
14 ophthalmology at Tufts Medical Center, the Boston Children
15 Medical Center of Harvard University, and the University of
16 Pittsburgh Eye and Ear Infirmary; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty served on the faculty at Tufts Medical
18 Center; he later moved to Chicago, where he became a faculty
19 member at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Eye Center
20 and a clinical associate professor at the UIC Glaucoma
21 Service; he served as a senior academic consultant at the King
22 Khalid Eye Specialist Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; he was
23 assistant director of the Department of Ophthalmology at

1 Boston Veterans' Hospital from 1978 to 1980; he was
2 founder/director of the glaucoma and neuro-ophthalmology
3 sections at the LV Prasad Eye Institute in Hyderabad, India
4 from January to December 1989; he served as regional
5 director/chair of the Department of Ophthalmology of
6 Humana/Michael Reese Health plans from 1993 to 1997; he began
7 serving as director/glaucoma consultant with Midwest Eye
8 Center SC in 1998; more recently, he started a glaucoma
9 lecture series in 2016; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty served as a presenter at various
11 national and international meetings and events, including the
12 American Academy of Ophthalmology, the All India Ophthalmic
13 Society, the International Congress of Ophthalmology, the Asia
14 Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, World Glaucoma Congress, and
15 the International Glaucoma Society, and he was a speaker for
16 Allergan, Alcon, Pfizer, and Merck; his writing was part of
17 over 125 publications, including both peer-reviewed and
18 non-peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, and abstracts, and
19 he conducted symposia, seminars, and grand rounds for various
20 organizations at various events; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty held leadership positions in many
22 organizations, including serving as founder/trustee of the LV
23 Prasad Eye Institute, as president of the Matteson Rotary
24 Club, the Sonty Renaissance International Foundation, and the

1 Andhra Medical College Alumni of North America (AMCANA), as
2 chairman of the AMCANA Board of Trustees, and as a member of
3 the President's Council of UIC, the Illinois Eye Fund Board,
4 Congressman Danny K. Davis' Advisory Task Force, and the
5 Governors State University (GSU) Foundation Board; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty received honors from a number of
7 organizations, including the American Academy of
8 Ophthalmology, the Indian Glaucoma Society, the American
9 Telugu Association (ATA), the Telugu Association of North
10 America (TANA), the Telugu Association of Greater Chicago, the
11 Tristate Telugu Association, and the Vanguri Foundation; he
12 was also the recipient of the Vamsee Arts International
13 Lifetime Achievement Award; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty remained committed to promoting and
15 honoring his Indian cultural heritage, serving as trustee of
16 the Gandhi Memorial Trust in Skokie and as founder and
17 chairman of the Sri Annamacharya Project of North America
18 (SAPNA) and the Sonty Renaissance International Foundation; he
19 presented numerous presentations on Gandhi's life and legacy;
20 alongside his wife, Dr. Sarada Purna Sonty, he completed 32
21 years of service to Indian classical music, dance, and
22 literature; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty and his wife donated significantly to

1 several major institutions, including the LV Prasad Eye
2 Institute, the SVS Temple of Aurora, the UIC Foundation, the
3 Chicago Symphony Center, the GSU Scholarship Fund, the Rotary
4 International Foundation, the NIMHANS Brain Bank, and the
5 Vegesna Foundation, among many more; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty will be remembered for his impact on
7 the profession of ophthalmology and his service as a mentor to
8 many in the field; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Sonty was the husband of Dr. Sarada Purna
10 Sonty, Ph.D., Ph.D., D.Litt.; the father of Dr. Sreepadma
11 Priya "Siri" Sonty, M.D. and Sreelakshmi Sita "Sita" Sonty;
12 and the grandfather of Jairam Aidan Taggart and Ananda Skylar
13 Taggart; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
16 Sriram Sonty, M.D., F.A.C.S. and extend our sincere
17 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
18 him; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Dr. Sonty as an expression of our
21 deepest sympathy.