



SR0555

LRB104 17592 LAW 31020 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 Constance M. "Connie" Niemann, who passed away on December 26, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Connie Niemann was born to Ralph and Cecelia (Jansen) Volm on August 4, 1932; she attended Quincy Notre Dame High School, where she played piano and marimba in the orchestra and glockenspiel in the marching band; she remained involved in music while attending Quincy College, known today as Quincy University, and graduated in 1954; she married Richard H. "Rich" Niemann Sr. on October 6, 1951, and together they raised eight children; and

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WHEREAS, Connie Niemann was deeply dedicated to serving her community, and she gave generously of her time, talents, and treasure through leadership and volunteer roles with the Quincy Symphony Women's Board, the Encore Community Counseling Board, the Adams County Mental Health Center, and the Good Samaritan Home Executive Board; at St. Peter School, she served as pianist for the children's choir, a Girl Scout leader, and co-founder of the school library; in recognition of her service, she was honored as a Girl Scouts' Woman of Distinction in 2008; and

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1 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann was a devoted partner to her
2 husband, Rich, offering steadfast encouragement and loyalty as
3 he navigated the challenging early years and later success of
4 the Niemann Foods grocery and other retail businesses;
5 together, they served on community fundraising campaigns for
6 the Salvation Army, the Adams County United Way, and Quincy
7 University; their shared commitment to education, faith, and
8 community was recognized by a number entities, receiving the
9 Quincy Notre Dame Band Award, the Quincy Catholic Elementary
10 Schools Foundation's Friend of Catholic Education Award, and
11 the Catholic Charities Distinguished Service Award; and

12 WHEREAS, Connie and Rich Niemann further gave back to
13 their community through launching the Connie Niemann Wheeler
14 Scholarship Fund in memory of their late daughter at Quincy
15 Notre Dame High School and partnering with Quincy University,
16 in conjunction with the Niemann Foods Foundation, to establish
17 the Connie Niemann Center for Music in 2013; in recognition of
18 their lifelong service and commitment to Quincy University,
19 they received honorary Doctor of Human Letters degrees in
20 2021; and

21 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann and her husband also cherished
22 attending family vacations in Florida, snow skiing as a family
23 in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and traveling throughout
24 Europe, and they especially enjoyed spending time with their

1 children and grandchildren at home; and

2 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann shared her love of music with
3 countless piano students, most notably her children and
4 grandchildren; she also enjoyed playing golf and tennis with
5 Rich and gathering with her close friends for a game of bridge
6 as an excuse to have a nice lunch together; and

7 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann was a loving and devoted wife,
8 mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and daughter; her
9 legacy of love, service, and devotion will endure through her
10 family, the music she shared, and the traditions, faith, and
11 generosity she modeled every day; and

12 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann was preceded in death by her
13 husband of 70 years, Rich; her daughter, Constance A. "Connie"
14 Niemann Wheeler; her parents; and her brother, Don Volm; and

15 WHEREAS, Connie Niemann is survived by her children, Linda
16 M. (Steve) Ebbing, Richard H. (Susie) Niemann Jr., Daniel M.
17 (Angie) Niemann, Ted M. (Suzanne) Niemann, Christopher J.
18 (Tammy) Niemann, Margaret M. "Peggy" (Randy) Guse, and Amy E.
19 (Patrick) O'Keefe; her son-in-law, Paul (JoJene) Wheeler II;
20 24 grandchildren; and 52 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
2 Constance M. "Connie" Niemann and extend our sincere
3 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
4 her; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Connie Niemann as an expression of
7 our deepest sympathy.