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LRB104 21154 MST 35505 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 Dr. Barbara Mary Gaffke, who passed away on September 4, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke was born on October 22, 1939; she earned her nursing degree from the St. Elizabeth Nursing School and both her master's degree and PhD in nursing from Loyola University Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke was a devoted nurse for over six decades and a source of care, compassion, and wisdom to many; she was a passionate advocate and a leader in both the Illinois Nursing Association and the Illinois Black Nurses Association; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke was deeply involved in her community; she helped establish the Park Ridge Homeowners Club, was a devoted parishioner of St. Paul of the Cross Church for 57 years, and actively supported animal shelters in Chicago and Lake Geneva, Wisconsin; she was also a Democratic Party activist; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke lived a life full of love, service, and adventure; and

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1 WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke was preceded in death by her husband,
2 John; her parents, Frank and Catherine; and her siblings,
3 Robert, Dolores, and Fred; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Gaffke is survived by her children, Michael
5 Gaffke (Lara Muldoon), Jeanine Gaffke (Michael Kane), and
6 Corinne (James) McKeag and her grandchildren, Aidan, Elise,
7 Vivienne, and Lilliana; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
10 Dr. Barbara Mary Gaffke and extend our sincere condolences to
11 her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Dr. Gaffke as a symbol of our deepest
15 sympathy.