



SR0706

LRB104 21384 ECR 36339 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Rev. Dr. William G. "Bill" Grice III,
4 who passed away on March 31, 2026; and

5 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice, the son of William G. Grice Jr.
6 and Dorothy Grice, was born in Chicago on December 30, 1947; he
7 graduated from Maine West High School; he received a Bachelor
8 of Science in Education from Northern Illinois University, and
9 he later earned his Master of Divinity and his Doctor of
10 Ministry from Andover Newton Theological Seminary in
11 Massachusetts; he became an ordained minister in the United
12 Church of Christ (UCC) at Christ Church UCC in Des Plaines,
13 Illinois; and

14 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice served congregations in Hyannis,
15 Massachusetts and New Gloucester, Maine before becoming senior
16 minister of First Congregational Church UCC of Des Plaines,
17 Illinois, where he served for nearly three decades; he also
18 supported the broader UCC community, which included his
19 involvement with San Lucas UCC in Chicago's Humboldt Park,
20 where he helped serve annual Thanksgiving meals; and

21 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice played an active role in many
22 local organizations, including the Des Plaines History Center,

1 the Lions and Elks Clubs, the Des Plaines Library Board, the
2 Self-Help Closet & Pantry, the Des Plaines Chamber of
3 Commerce, and the Des Plaines Ministerial Association; he was
4 also known locally for his Epiphanies column in the Journal &
5 Topics newspaper; and

6 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice held a lifelong passion for
7 trains, including learning about their history and building
8 model railroads; he loved playing the guitar and traveling,
9 visiting Heavener, Oklahoma, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Anna
10 Maria Island, Florida, and Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer,
11 Michigan; he was also interested in history, family genealogy,
12 and literature; most of all, he cherished spending time with
13 his family; and

14 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice, affectionately known as "Boompa"
15 by his family, was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and
16 friend; he was a steady and compassionate presence in the
17 lives of many, offering guidance, perspective, and support
18 during times of both joy and grief; and

19 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice was preceded in death by his
20 parents; his first wife, Susan William; and his granddaughter,
21 Elizabeth Grice; and

22 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Grice is survived by his wife, Ann; his

1 sons, Paul, William IV, Jonathan, and Christopher;
2 daughters-in-law, Sandra, Shannon, Anna, and Ashley; 14
3 grandchildren; and a host of friends, colleagues, and
4 community members; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
7 Rev. Dr. William G. "Bill" Grice III and extend our sincere
8 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
9 him; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Rev. Dr. Grice as an expression of
12 our deepest sympathy.