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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 Marlene Delores (Bower) Graham of Waukegan, who passed away on May 31, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Marlene Graham was born to Henry Royal and Marie Elizabeth Filstead Bower on December 15, 1931; she was raised and lived her entire life in Waukegan and had great pride for her hometown; she graduated from Waukegan High School; and

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WHEREAS, Marlene Graham began her first career at Victory Memorial Hospital, where she was in charge of the dietitian department; she enjoyed writing diets and taking care of the patients; she then worked as a librarian in the Waukegan Public School District; she worked at Washington Elementary School and Clearview Elementary School for many years; she later took a job at the Waukegan Public Library, where she worked diligently to help patrons find a love of reading, helped many people with their college research projects, and gathered Waukegan historical items; and

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WHEREAS, Marlene Graham was involved in many groups; she was a member of the Christ Episcopal Church and served as a Sunday school teacher, a member of the Altar Guild, and a member of the Stephen Ministry; she was a Girl Scout leader and

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1 a member of the Republican Party; she worked on recording the
2 history of Waukegan; she and Leo enjoyed traveling, especially
3 to Wyoming to work with the Episcopal Church in Ethete; helping
4 the Arapaho tribe was a yearly event; she was the driving force
5 behind the Waukegan Library trips and the Christ Episcopal
6 Church trips; she had a passion for learning and trying new
7 things, which she instilled in her daughters and grandchildren;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Marlene Graham was preceded in death by her
10 parents; her husband, Leo; her daughter, Cheryl Graham
11 Ptasienski; and her grandson, Daniel Sonnen; and

12 WHEREAS, Marlene Graham is survived by her daughter,
13 Colleen (Greg) Sonnen; her grandchildren, Sarah (Ethan)
14 Remacle, Mary (Nate) Sonnen, Carolyn (Kyle) Groom, Christine
15 Rieger and Philip Alfaro, Stephanie (Mark) Allen, and Elizabeth
16 Rieger; her son-in-law, Daniel Ptasienski; her brother, Wayne
17 (Sharon) Bower; her niece, Terra (Kevin) Mener and Curtis
18 Mener; and her great-grandchildren, Jared Sonnen, Cora,
19 Isaiah, Kris, and Olivia Remacle, Michael and Abigail Woodgerd,
20 Claire, Kerry, and Colin Groom, and Xavier and Katarina Alfaro;
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 Marlene Delores (Bower) Graham and extend our sincere
2 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
3 her; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Marlene Graham as an expression of
6 our deepest sympathy.