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LRB102 17990 ECR 24783 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 Barbara "Barb" Ketcham Leiter of Peoria and Boca Grande, Florida, who passed away March 4, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Barb Leiter was born to John Robert and Ellen Shepherdson Ketcham in Peoria on January 9, 1945; she graduated from Richwoods High School in 1963 and from Bradley University in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in Education; at Bradley, she was affiliated with the Pi Beta Phi Sorority; she married Tom Leiter, her high school sweetheart, at First Federated Church in Peoria on June 17, 1967; and

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WHEREAS, After moving to Champaign where Tom completed law school, Barb Leiter taught art to kindergarten and elementary students in Mansfield; in 1969, she and her husband moved back to Peoria where she taught at Northmoor School; she was a licensed and registered interior designer and employed her many talents in residential and commercial projects in Illinois and Florida, both in new construction and in historic preservation and restoration; and

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WHEREAS, Barb Leiter volunteered her time to many philanthropic organizations and chaired numerous fundraising

1 activities, including the Heart Fund, Opera Illinois, and the
2 Peoria Historical Society; she was active in the Lakeview
3 Center, the Peoria Riverfront Museum, and the local public
4 broadcasting company, WTVP; an exceptional event planner, she
5 chaired the Peoria, Illinois Tri-Centennial Ball, created the
6 Riverboat Gambler events for the Peoria Historical Society,
7 and organized numerous other events for the Country Club of
8 Peoria Centennial Celebration; and

9 WHEREAS, Barb Leiter was a member of the First Federated
10 Church in Peoria and the Boca Grande Methodist Church in Boca
11 Grande, Florida; she maintained membership in the DAR, the
12 National Society of Colonial Dames of America (Chicago
13 Chapter), the English Speaking Union, the Peoria Historical
14 Society, the Junior League of Peoria, the Peoria Women's Club,
15 the Boca Grande Woman's Club, PEO, the Country Club of Peoria,
16 the Gasparilla Inn and Club, and numerous other educational
17 and civic organizations; and

18 WHEREAS, Barb Leiter, along with her husband, enjoyed
19 historic preservation, antiques, history, music, and, most
20 importantly, family; and

21 WHEREAS, Barb Leiter was preceded in death by her father
22 and mother; and

1 WHEREAS, Barb Leiter is survived by her husband, Tom; her
2 four children, Elizabeth (Alexis) Khazzam, Matthew (Meghan)
3 Leiter, Anne Bicket Leiter, and Margaret (Carter) Wellford;
4 her grandchildren, Nicholas, Stella Grace, Matteo, Louisa,
5 Frances, Leighton, and Caroline; and her brother, James Robert
6 Ketcham; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
9 Barbara "Barb" Ketcham Leiter and extend our sincere
10 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
11 her; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Barb Leiter as an expression of our
14 deepest sympathy.