



SR0445

LRB102 19264 ECR 28030 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 Ellen M. Whitney of Springfield, who passed away on July 14, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Ellen Whitney was born to Reverend C.H. and Irene Whitehurst Todd in Evanston on March 13, 1920; she graduated from Greenville High School; she married Francis A. Whitney in 1940; she attended Southern Illinois University and finished third in the class of 1941; and

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WHEREAS, Ellen Whitney worked for the International News Service as a reporter and as a teacher at Feitshens High School; she worked for 32 years at the Illinois State Historical Library; she was a historical research editor of the papers of the late Dr. George E. Black, which required more than a year of work; she noted that her most difficult assignment was editing the library's exhaustive collection of the Black Hawk War papers, which required many years of work and filled four volumes; as part of her work, she was called to Washington, D.C. to serve as an expert witness in a very difficult American Indian claims case from the Black Hawk War of 1832, which ended with a rare Native American victory; for her last major project, she was a compiler of Illinois History: An Annotated Bibliography with Janice A. Petterchak

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1 and Sandra Stark; and

2 WHEREAS, For her work on the Black Hawk War papers, Ellen
3 Whitney earned a national reputation and awards from the
4 American Association for state and local history and from the
5 State Historical Society of Wisconsin; and

6 WHEREAS, Ellen Whitney was preceded in death by her
7 husband; her parents; her brother, Harold Todd; and her
8 sister, Grace Todd; and

9 WHEREAS, Ellen Whitney is survived by her one son, Blair
10 (Rita) Whitney; her two grandchildren, Ruth (Ken) Antonoff and
11 Helen Whitney; and her four great-grandchildren, Zachary and
12 Chelsea Marek and Eva and Joseph Antonoff; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Ellen M. Whitney and extend our sincere condolences to her
16 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Ellen Whitney as an expression of
20 our deepest sympathy.