



SR0431

LRB103 33756 LAW 63570 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 John D. Risse Sr. of Springfield, who passed away on July 25, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, John Risse was born to Anthony and Caroline Ellen Harrison Risse in Springfield on April 27, 1935; he graduated from Cathedral Boys High School; he married Bertha E. Gaffigan at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Springfield on August 29, 1956; and

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WHEREAS, John Risse retired from the State of Illinois Capital Development Board after 38 years of service; he then worked part-time for Butler Funeral Home and also worked security during the State Fair; and

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WHEREAS, John Risse joined the Knights of Columbus Council #364 in 1953 and the 4th Degree Bishop Griffin Assembly in 1967; he served the order and his council in various elected offices, including as deputy grand knight; he was appointed as district deputy for six years, served as MR chairman since 1970, and belonged to the council's marching and concert band from 1953 to 1965; he also served on the Bishop McNicholas Degree Staff and had served as charitable coordinator on the State Council of the Springfield Diocese, state deputy special

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1 assistant, and pro-life co-chairman for the State Council; he
2 held various 4th Degree offices, including faithful navigator
3 from 1974 to 1976 and faithful comptroller beginning in 1984;
4 he served as district secretary to the Master Southern
5 District from 1988 to 1992; he was elected as trustee to the
6 Board of the Springfield Diocesan Chapter for two years and
7 served as a delegate to the 1993 Supreme Convention,
8 representing the Springfield Diocesan Chapter; and

9 WHEREAS, John Risse was a lifelong member of St. Aloysius
10 Catholic Church; he was a member or an officer of the
11 Inter-Civic Club, the Golden Laurel Awards Banquet, and
12 Special Olympics Area #17 Board; he served as an umpire at
13 baseball and softball games for many years, and he refereed
14 basketball games; and

15 WHEREAS, John Risse was honored by the Knights of Columbus
16 Council #364 when his family was named Family of the Year in
17 1991; that same year, he was inducted into the Springfield
18 Diocesan Chapter Hall of Fame; he received the Illinois State
19 Medallion in 1994; and

20 WHEREAS, John Risse was preceded in death by his parents
21 and his brother, Joseph Risse; and

22 WHEREAS, John Risse is survived by his wife, Bertha E.

1 Risse; his sons, John D. (Molly) Risse Jr., Thomas A. Risse,
2 and Michael A. (Evelyn) Risse; his daughters, Katherine M.
3 Risse and Christine A. Risse; his grandchildren, Joshua,
4 Elizabeth, Larissa, Monica, and Jacki; and his
5 great-grandchildren, Joel, Jude, Jayden, Bella, Owen, and
6 Scarlett; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
9 John D. Risse Sr. and extend our sincere condolences to his
10 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
11 further

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