



SR1227

LRB103 42677 LAW 75911 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 Robert Kent "Bob" Gray of Springfield, who passed away on September 23, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Gray, the son of Robert Ardell and Madge Marie Crews Gray, was born in West Frankfort on March 22, 1940; he graduated from O'Fallon Township High School; he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Southern Illinois University; he married Judith Ann "Judy" Santeford in Chicago Heights on August 15, 1964, and they were married for 55 years; in his later years, he found companionship with Vena Garrett; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Gray taught at Proviso West High School and The Ohio State University, and he served as a school administer at the Dundee Community Unit School District 300; after moving to Springfield in 1967, he held a long career in state politics and government, retiring in 2002; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Gray served as president of the Springfield Jaycees, president of the Illinois Jaycees, a longtime precinct committeeman of the Sangamon County Republicans, and a member of the American Business Club; he was also president and co-founder of the Citizens Club of Springfield, a platform

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1 dedicated to civic engagement and local improvement; and

2 WHEREAS, Bob Gray was recognized as an Outstanding Young  
3 Man by the Springfield Chamber of Commerce in 1972 and as  
4 Springfield's First Citizen by the State Journal-Register in  
5 2009, and he was inducted to the Illinois Jaycees Hall of Fame  
6 in 2022; and

7 WHEREAS, Bob Gray was a lifelong St. Louis Cardinals fan;  
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9 WHEREAS, Bob Gray will be remembered as a dedicated  
10 educator, a community leader, and a beloved father; and

11 WHEREAS, Bob Gray was preceded in death by his parents and  
12 his wife; and

13 WHEREAS, Bob Gray is survived by his son, Kent Gray; his  
14 grandsons, Harrison and Oliver Gray; and his sister, Pamela  
15 McDaniel; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
18 Robert Kent "Bob" Gray and extend our sincere condolences to  
19 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
20 further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Bob Gray as an expression of our  
3 deepest sympathy.