

## 1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of  
3 Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Arthur S.  
4 Nelson of Geneva on June 15, 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson was born September 20, 1911 in  
6 Geneva, the son of shopkeepers Walter F. and Julia (Strom)  
7 Nelson, he was raised and taught to run the family business  
8 which was stationed at the center of the small town of  
9 Geneva; it was never clear whether the family store was  
10 confectionery, a lunch stand, a bus station, or a community  
11 service center; and

12 WHEREAS, After graduating from Geneva High School in  
13 1928, Mr. Nelson pursued a bachelor of science degree from  
14 the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana; he was very  
15 active in the Kappa Delta Rho fraternity; it was here that  
16 his deep desire to learn was initially established; his love  
17 for the University was apparent throughout his life as he  
18 continually gave back to the college any way he could; and

19 WHEREAS, After his college graduation in 1932, Mr. Nelson  
20 returned to Geneva to help with the everyday workings of the  
21 family store; he met, fell in love, and married Bernice  
22 Wagner; in the following years, the couple had two sons, Kent  
23 "Lion" Nelson in 1939 and Gregg Nelson in 1944; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson became very active in many community  
25 affairs; he served as a member of the Geneva Lions Club for  
26 more than 50 years; he was a member of the Delnor-Community  
27 Hospital Men's Foundation, the Geneva Golf Club, and the  
28 Geneva Historical Society; he served as a three-term Geneva  
29 alderman from 1955 to 1967, chairing the city's power and  
30 light committee for eight years and heading the parking  
31 committee; he also served on the Geneva Community Chest for  
32 two years; and

1           WHEREAS, After the passing of his father, he took over  
2 the operation of Nelson Brother's Trucking which is another  
3 family business; concurrently, he was elected president of  
4 the State Bank of Geneva; he served on the board of directors  
5 at the bank for the last 50 years; his love for the operation  
6 and management of the businesses was passed on to his sons;  
7 for his many contributions to the community of Geneva, he was  
8 given the distinguished "Wood Community Service Award"; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson belonged to the United Methodist  
10 Church in Geneva; and

11           WHEREAS, His extreme generosity as well as the sharing of  
12 his invaluable life experiences is greatly appreciated by all  
13 those who have known him; his passing will be deeply felt by  
14 many, especially his sons, Kent "Lion" Nelson and Gregg (Joy)  
15 Nelson; and his grandchildren, Tim, Jamie, Kristina, and Tom;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents; and his  
18 wife, Bernice; therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing  
21 of Arthur S. Nelson along with all who knew and loved him and  
22 extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends; and  
23 be it further

24           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
25 presented to the family of Arthur S. Nelson as an expression  
26 of our deepest sympathy.