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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the passing of Josephine E. Birkett (nee Keane) of Burr Ridge on October 24, 2003; and

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WHEREAS, Born on May 20, 1921, in Decatur, Mrs. Birkett grew up in Chicago, living for years in the Austin neighborhood on the city's far West Side; and

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WHEREAS, After the death of her beloved husband, Raymond Birkett, more than 35 years ago, Mrs. Birkett successfully raised her 10 children and guided her family through the financial and emotional struggles that faced them; her legacy was the lesson she taught her sprawling brood, "Families stick together, no matter what happens"; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Birkett enjoyed politics; she played a key role in her son Joseph's first run for DuPage County State's Attorney in 1996, recruiting members of the extended family to work on his campaign; she remained active in her son's 2002 campaign for Illinois Attorney General; and

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WHEREAS, Josephine Birkett was a member of the Screen Actors Guild and appeared on the television shows "Cheers" and "Frazier"; she was a lifelong Cubs fan and an avid reader; she was also a member of Our Lady of Peace Church in Darien; and

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WHEREAS, The passing of Josephine Birkett has been deeply felt by all who knew and loved her, especially by her children, Bernadette (George) Wendt, Robert B. Birkett, John T. (Alice) Birkett, Raymond B. (Julie) Birkett, Colett Birkett, Dupage County State's Attorney Joseph (Patti) Birkett, Mary Alice (John) Antonioli, Thomas I. Birkett, and Christopher J. (Penny) Birkett; her sisters Marie Lawler, Catherine McMahon, Alice Malone, Joan Tuohy, and Barbara

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1 Mesi; her 32 grandchildren; and her 3 great-grandchildren;
2 she was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Birkett and
3 her son, Daniel Birkett; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
6 all who knew her, the death of Josephine Birkett of Burr
7 Ridge; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Josephine Birkett with our
10 sincerest condolences.