



1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois
3 learned with regret of the death of Ralph L. Franklin of
4 Caseyville, formerly of Washington Park, on Sunday, August 21,
5 2005; and

6 WHEREAS, He was born June 8, 1922, in Rockwood to Charles
7 and Faye, nee Murden, Franklin; he valiantly served his country
8 as a member of the U.S. Army during World War II; he served in
9 Burma, India, and was a member of the Caseyville VFW Post 6372;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Franklin was very politically active and was
12 on the Board of Trustees in Washington Park for 30 years and
13 served as Mayor of Washington Park from 1975 to 1988; he
14 retired as a car man from Penn Central Railroad, where he
15 worked for 40 years and was a member of the Railroad Retirees
16 Club; he was President of his beloved union, TWA 2037, for 27
17 years; he worked part-time for Central Hardware, Sears
18 Hardware, and he also worked for the East St. Louis Health
19 Department; and

20 WHEREAS, He gave much love and strength to his family,
21 church, and community; and

22 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 60
23 years, Shirley J., nee Champ, Franklin; his daughter who died
24 in infancy, Patricia Franklin; his grandson who died in
25 infancy, Christopher Jerome; his granddaughter-in-law, Julie
26 Grzyb; his parents, Charles and Faye, nee Murden, Franklin; his
27 brother and his wife, Alvin and Helen, nee Brock, Franklin; his
28 son-in-law, Walter "Lucky" Grzyb; his mother-in-law, Martha,
29 nee Cowens, Hazel; his sister-in-law, Delores, nee Benson,
30 Franklin; and his brother-in-law, Henry Coppotelli; and

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Ralph Franklin has been deeply felt
2 by many, especially his children, Carol Ann Grzyb, Ron
3 (Shirley) Franklin, Chris (Michelle) Franklin, and Angel
4 (Robert) Phillips; his grandchildren, Julie (Jim) Schneider,
5 Michael (Wyvonne) Grzyb, Jennifer (Donte) Harris, Scott
6 (Linda) Franklin, Ronnie (Deanna) Franklin, Brian (Angel)
7 Franklin, Ashley Franklin, Brandon Franklin, Brittany
8 Franklin, Kristi Luna, Sara Luna, and Cody Luna; his
9 great-grandchildren, Alex Schneider, Michael Grzyb, Tony
10 Grzyb, Donte Harris II, Hayden Franklin, and Haleigh Franklin;
11 his sister, Juanita Coppotelli; and his brother, Charles A.
12 Franklin; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Ralph L. Franklin, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
16 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
17 further

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