



1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois  
3 learned with sadness of the death of John W. Somers of Marion  
4 on August 6, 2005; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Somers was born August 1, 1940, in Rutherford,  
6 Tennessee, to William Malcom and Ruby Nell (Hoskins) Somers; he  
7 married Judy Bynum on September 4, 1960, in Dyer, Tennessee;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, He was called to preach in 1958 when he was a  
10 senior in high school; he began his pastoral ministry two years  
11 later and received degrees from Ouachita Baptist University,  
12 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Luther Rice  
13 Seminary; he was the pastor in churches in Tennessee, Indiana,  
14 Texas, and Illinois, including the First Baptist Church in  
15 DuQuoin; and

16 WHEREAS, He and his wife, along with Les and Sandy Snyder  
17 of West Frankfort, founded Community of Faith Church in  
18 November 1979; he also served as Director of the Department of  
19 Evangelism for the Illinois Baptist State Association; he  
20 preached in many revivals across the country and spent 36 years  
21 in pastoral ministry; and

22 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents; and

23 WHEREAS, The passing of John Somers is felt by all who knew  
24 and loved him, especially his wife, Judy; his sons and  
25 daughters-in-law, Jon Mark and Pam Somers and Jeff and Leslie  
26 Somers; his granddaughters, Brittany, Rani, Nicole, and Ciara  
27 Somers; his brother and sister-in-law, Jack and Pam Somers; his  
28 nephews, Mike and Greg Somers; his stepmother, Janie Somers;  
29 and a host of his friends, whom he loved dearly; therefore, be  
30 it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
3 John Somers and extend our sincerest condolences to his family,  
4 friends, and community; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest  
7 sympathy.