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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 death of Ennis Thomas Lightford on Thursday, January 12, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Huntsville, Alabama, on May 12, 1922, to Will and Maime Lee Lightford; he valiantly served his country as a member of the U.S. Army during World War II; he achieved the rank of Sergeant and received three medals, the APTO Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal; he was honorably discharged in 1946; and

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WHEREAS, He married Delia B. Fitchard on May 12, 1943; she preceded him in death; they moved to Chicago in the late 1940s; he worked in construction as a plasterer; he helped to build Sears Tower and MacNeal Hospital; and

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WHEREAS, His niece, State Senator Kimberly Lightford, remembers her fifth birthday, just two days before his birthday, when the family gathered at her Uncle Ennis' house for her birthday party; she spilled the beans by informing Uncle Ennis that there was a cake in the trunk of the car for him; the family constantly reminds her of that birthday surprise; and

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WHEREAS, He was the last surviving great uncle and was always dapper and ever so kind; he especially enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Ennis was a devoted family man and his passing has been deeply felt by many, especially his children, Josephine Robinson (Dinismore Sr.), Lee Lightford (Marian), and Virgil Blevins (Kathleen); his grandchildren, Michelle Lightford (Kenny), Nathan Blevins Sr. (April), Joyce R. Ward, and Dinismore Robinson, Jr. (Veronica); his

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1 great-grandchildren, Joseph McGregor, Reeta McGregor, Nathan
2 Blevins Jr., Raven J., Devynn, and Dinismore III (Trey); his
3 brothers and sisters, Bruce Horton, Lee Roy Horton, and Mildred
4 Wiggins; his sisters-in-law, Berta Lightford, Callie Sue
5 Horton, and Emma Horton; and his many nieces, nephews, cousins,
6 and friends; in addition to his wife, he was preceded in death
7 by his brothers and sisters, Eddie Lightford, Ovoy Horton, and
8 Velma Lightford; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Ennis Thomas Lightford, and we extend our sincere condolences
12 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
13 it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest
16 sympathy.