



HR0274

LRB095 11859 KXB 35039 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of retired  
4 Judge and former State Representative Rolland F. Tipsword of  
5 Taylorville, who passed away on April 5, 2007; and

6           WHEREAS, He was born August 19, 1925, in Monticello, the  
7 son of Leo Clemit and Jossie Banning Fortner Tipsword; he  
8 graduated from Beecher City Community Unit High School in 1943  
9 and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Idaho in  
10 1949, where he was a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity; he  
11 graduated with honors from Northwestern University School of  
12 Law in Chicago in 1951; and

13           WHEREAS, He was admitted to the Illinois Bar in September  
14 of 1951; Mr. Tipsword served as Clerk to Illinois Supreme Court  
15 Justice Harry Hershey from the years 1951 to 1954 and 1957 to  
16 1960; he later became an associate partner in the Hershey &  
17 Bliss Law Firm; he served as Christian County State's Attorney  
18 during the years of 1960 to 1966; he was a partner in the  
19 Tipsword & Fraley Law Firm, which later became the Coale,  
20 Taylor, Tipsword, Fraley & Doyle Law Firm; and

21           WHEREAS, Mr. Tipsword was elected to the Illinois House of  
22 Representatives, serving Districts 50 and 51 during the years

1 1966 to 1979; he served as Circuit Judge, 4th Judicial District  
2 of Illinois from 1983 to 1993; he served on the Illinois  
3 Supreme Court Committee to prepare first Illinois pattern jury  
4 instructions; he was elected as a delegate to the 1980  
5 Democratic National Convention; he was Past President of the  
6 Christian County, Illinois Bar Association; and

7 WHEREAS, Judge Tipsword was extremely active in the Grand  
8 Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois and the Grand  
9 Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Illinois; he  
10 received the Meritorious Service Award in 1975 and the 33rd  
11 Degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic  
12 Jurisdiction in 1977; he also served as Worthy Grand Patron of  
13 the Order of the Eastern Star in 1970; he was a member of the  
14 Haslemere Chapter 221 in Taylorville, and a member of the White  
15 Shrine of Jerusalem in Springfield; and

16 WHEREAS, Rolland Tipsword was a member of the First  
17 Presbyterian Church, where he served as a past Deacon and  
18 Elder; he was a member of Taylorville Elks Club, Taylorville  
19 Eagles Club, Taylorville Moose Club, American Legion, and the  
20 VFW; he was a charter member of the Taylorville Kiwanis Club;  
21 and he served in the United States Navy, Pacific Theatre,  
22 during the years of 1942 to 1946; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Tipsword never married; surviving are several

1 cousins; therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
4 mourn, along with his family, friends, and the people of the  
5 City of Taylorville, the passing of Rolland Tipsword and extend  
6 our sincere condolences to all who knew him at this time; and  
7 be it further

8       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the Coale, Taylor, Tipsword, Fraley & Doyle Law  
10 Firm as a symbol of our sympathy.