



SR0315

LRB096 13206 GRL 27844 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Terrence L. Barnich of Chicago, who was killed on May 25, 2009 while serving his country as Deputy Director of the Iraq Transition Assistance Office; and

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WHEREAS, Despite a highly successful career in State government and the private sector, Terry Barnich chose to devote much of his time and energy in recent years to the valiant effort to bring democracy to the people of Iraq, serving at great personal sacrifice and ultimately giving his life to advance the cause of peace and democracy in the region; and

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WHEREAS, Terry Barnich arrived in Iraq in the tumultuous early days of the surge led by General David Petraeus and remained in the country, taking a leave from his duties as Chief Executive Office of New Paradigm Resources Group in order to pursue his mission in Iraq; and

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WHEREAS, Terry Barnich went to Iraq following a distinguished career in the public sector, which included serving as Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1989 to 1993; and

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1           WHEREAS, Prior to his service on the Illinois Commerce  
2 Commission, Terry Barnich served as General Counsel to Governor  
3 James Thompson, where he provided a wide array of legal advice  
4 to the Governor, his staff, and various cabinet directors; he  
5 also lent his expertise in analyzing and drafting legislation,  
6 executive orders, and administrative review; and

7           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's lifelong commitment to justice  
8 was at the heart of his service when, as counsel to the  
9 Governor in the 1980s, he gained a high public profile  
10 assisting in the investigation of an alleged rapist, which  
11 eventually led to the exoneration of the individual on the  
12 basis of DNA evidence and a commutation of the sentence by the  
13 Governor; and

14           WHEREAS, Prior to his government service, Terry Barnich  
15 worked as an associate of the law firm of McDermott, Will &  
16 Emery from 1979 to 1983 and at Rudnick & Wolfe from 1983 to  
17 1984, where he concentrated in the practice of commercial  
18 litigation; and

19           WHEREAS, After his service with Illinois government, Terry  
20 Barnich was hired by the Bell Atlantic Corporation to lead its  
21 national strategy for securing the necessary 48-state  
22 regulatory approvals of its proposed merger with the TCI cable  
23 company; and

1           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich then formed a consulting practice in  
2 Chicago - New Paradigm Resources Group, Inc. - which  
3 concentrated on providing regulatory, public policy, and  
4 competitive strategic planning advice to companies operating  
5 in formerly regulated industries, such as the retail energy and  
6 telecommunications fields; and

7           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich has been widely published on a  
8 variety of utility and political topics, in such journals as  
9 *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Journal of Commerce*, *Public*  
10 *Utilities Fortnightly*, *The Washington Times*, and the *Chicago*  
11 *Tribune*; and

12           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich grew up in Chicago's Hegewisch  
13 community and graduated from Washington High School; he earned  
14 his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in  
15 Washington, D.C. and his law degree from Fordham University in  
16 New York City; and

17           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich is survived by his mother, Genevieve  
18 Ketel; his brother, Bruce Barnich; his sister, Rochelle  
19 Barnich; and his many friends around the world; and

20           WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's commitment to the greater good is  
21 reflected in the comments of friends and former colleagues,

1 upon learning of his death; former Illinois Governor James  
2 Thompson, for whom he worked as chief legal counsel, said *"It's*  
3 *not often you find people who are experienced and know how to*  
4 *make things work, but also have a sense of public service and*  
5 *the obligation of citizenry. He had both."*; former Treasurer  
6 Judy Baar Topinka, for whom he served as campaign manager for  
7 her 2006 gubernatorial bid, said *"He wanted to make the world*  
8 *and everything around him better."*; his friend and former  
9 Baghdad colleague, Philip O'Connor, said *"He fought his battles*  
10 *with a briefcase and a computer... he was a true patriot and*  
11 *hero..."*; and

12 WHEREAS, A large and diverse universe of friends and  
13 colleagues are left with innumerable memories of Terry  
14 Barnich's camaraderie, quick wit, self-effacing and irreverent  
15 sense of humor, and ability to bring an element of fun to even  
16 the most serious and stressful situation; and

17 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich is fondly remembered as a true  
18 patriot who was committed to his mission of reconstructing the  
19 physical, economic, and intellectual infrastructure of Iraq  
20 with an unrelenting focus on the goals of spreading democracy,  
21 improving world peace, and relieving the suffering of the  
22 people of Iraq; and

23 WHEREAS, Terry Barnich's legacy will endure as his friends

1 and colleagues throughout the world, despite their grief and  
2 sadness, recommit themselves to follow their passions, embrace  
3 the importance of public service, and live life courageously;  
4 therefore, be it

5       RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
7 Terry Barnich and his service to the State of Illinois, the  
8 United States of America, and the citizens of the world, while  
9 at the same time celebrating his legacy of quiet, hard-working  
10 leadership and commitment to the greater good; and be it  
11 further

12       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family and friends of Terry Barnich with our  
14 sincere sympathies and our abiding respect, admiration, and  
15 love for a great man who was doing great things.