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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 Dr. Eugenia Marie Pierce Vest of Godfrey, who passed away on January 11, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, She was born June 8, 1926, in Virginia, Minnesota, to James and Agnes (Honsa) Pierce; she married Thomas Bruce Vest, M.D., May 7, 1959, in St. Louis; they were happily married for 50 years; and

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WHEREAS, She graduated with a bachelor's of science degree in education from the University of Minnesota in 1947 and later with a bachelor's of science degree in physical therapy in 1950; she helped to rehabilitate victims of the polio epidemic in Detroit and later treated wounded soldiers at the John Cochran Veterans Hospital in St. Louis; she pursued her passion for medicine and was one of only four women in a class of approximately 150 who graduated from the St. Louis University School of Medicine, class of 1958; and

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WHEREAS, She completed a residency in pediatrics at St. Louis Children's Hospital in 1961; Dr. Pierce practiced pediatrics at Labor Health Institute and at St. Louis Children's from 1961 until 2004; she was a member of St. Ambrose Catholic Church in her hometown of Godfrey since 1964;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, She was preceded in death by her parents, James
3 and Agnes Pierce; and

4 WHEREAS, Eugenia Vest, M.D. is survived by her husband,
5 Thomas Bruce Vest, M.D.; her son, Bruce T. Vest, M.D., his
6 wife, Kathleen Paletta Vest, M.D., and their seven children,
7 Trip, Amanda, Sam, Max, Mallorie, Blake, and Luke; her
8 daughter, Jeanie M. Thompson, M.D., her husband, Ray E.
9 Thompson III, and their two children, Ray IV and Christina; her
10 daughter, Mary V. Mason M.D., her husband, John E. Mason, M.D.,
11 and their two children, Lauren and Patrick; and her two
12 sisters, Lillian L. and Cecelia A. Pierce; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
15 her family, friends, and people she touched over the years, the
16 passing of Dr. Eugenia Vest; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Dr. Eugenia Vest as a symbol of our
19 sincere sympathy.