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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 George W. Tortorella of Champaign, formerly of Waukegan and Morton Grove, who passed away on February 20, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, He was born September 30, 1919, in Chicago, son of the late James and Anna (Nierzwicki) Tortorella; he graduated from Lane Tech in Chicago; he married Helen Perala in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, They moved to Ironwood, Michigan, where they built and managed the Blue Cloud Motel on U.S. 2 for several years; they then moved to Waukegan, and Morton Grove, where he returned to his trade as a tool and die maker; he later moved to Mokelumne Hill, California, and then Sunflower, Arizona, where he cultivated many friends and hobbies, one of them being the chief ravioli maker for gatherings and parties; he then moved to Champaign and spent several years at the Champaign County Nursing Home, where he was well taken care of by many caregivers and nurses; and

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WHEREAS, He was one of the most optimistic people, upbeat and encouraging; he always saw the best in all people and all situations; he loved to joke and had a million favorite

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1 expressions, including "Everything is turkey but the
2 dressing"; and

3 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his sister, Florence
4 Cook; and his parents; and

5 WHEREAS, George Tortorella will be sadly missed and is
6 survived by his daughter, Georgine (Gary) Hembrough; his son,
7 Dennis (Geri); his grandson, Stephen Tortorella; and his 5
8 nieces and 5 nephews; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
11 his family and friends, the passing of George Tortorella; and
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of George Tortorella as a symbol of our
15 sincere sympathy.