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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to hear of the death of Sandra J. Mills, who passed away on November 27, 2012 after a long battle with cancer; and

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WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills was born on March 26, 1947, in Mendota and grew up in Peoria; her parents were Lois and Ben Clarke; she earned her bachelor's degree in sociology at Bradley University, her master's of social work at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign and her doctorate in adult education at Northern Illinois University; and

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WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills devoted much of her career to the practice of social work; in 1991, she became the lobbyist for the National Association of Social Workers-Illinois Chapter; in that capacity, she served as a strong and successful advocate for human services and the profession of social work in Illinois and the United States for 17 years; and

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WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills joined the faculty of the University of Illinois-Springfield in 1994; she taught at the graduate and undergraduate levels in the Child Family and Community Services Program and the Social Work Program; she achieved tenure in 2001 and served as department chair in 2003 and 2004; she developed an internship for students and taught

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1 in Sighisoara, Romania in 2001 and 2004; she subsequently
2 retired from UIS as professor emeritus; and

3 WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills was the recipient of many honors
4 and awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award in Social
5 Work from the National Association of Social Workers-Illinois
6 Chapter; and

7 WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills was a loving and inspirational
8 mother, mentor, friend, and partner who was adored and
9 cherished by her family, friends, and colleagues; she will be
10 remembered for her humor, warmth, open-mindedness, intellect,
11 and compassion; and

12 WHEREAS, Sandra J. Mills is survived by her husband, Joseph
13 Mills; her son, Aaron Mills; her daughter, Lisa Stewart; her
14 sister, Joy Henderson; her sister-in-law, Betty Phalen; and her
15 many friends; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
18 her family and friends, the passing of Sandra J. Mills; and be
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Sandra J. Mills as an expression of

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1 our sympathy.