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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 William James "Bill" Metzger of Collinsville, who passed away on June 17, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, William Metzger was born in East St. Louis to William Herman and Gladys Fern (Dugger) Metzger Powell on October 17, 1935; he graduated from Collinsville High School in 1953 and from the Washington University School of Business in 1957, where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and the Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity; he married Lois Welch on August 8, 1959; and

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WHEREAS, Following his graduation, William Metzger joined his father at the Concrete Unit Step Company in Collinsville; in 1962, he joined the Travelers Insurance Company in St. Louis, Missouri and was the Manager of the Personal Lines division when he retired; he served as President of the Insurance Company Executives Association in 1984 and was also named Insurance Person of the Year by the Insurance Council of St. Louis; in 1991, he was awarded the ChFC designation; and

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WHEREAS, Following his retirement from the Travelers Insurance Company, William Metzger joined the Tyler and Associates Insurance Agency in Wood River; and

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1 WHEREAS, William Metzger's community service to
2 Collinsville began soon after his college graduation; he was a
3 member of the Collinsville Jaycees and Vice-President of the
4 baseball league; in 1959, he joined the Collinsville Rotary
5 Club, where he remained an active member for 47 years, serving
6 as President in 1963-64 and as secretary for many years; he was
7 named a Paul Harris Fellow and was the Rotarian of the Year in
8 1987-88; selling oranges for Rotary was a part of every
9 Christmas season; in 1961, he was presented the Distinguished
10 Service Award "Young Man of the Year" by the Collinsville
11 Junior Chamber of Commerce; he was nominated by two groups in
12 recognition of his overall business and community involvement;
13 he served in the Missouri Air National Guard and was a member
14 of the Tepee Adult Advisory Board, serving as its President; he
15 became a member of the YMCA board in its formative years when
16 the summer day camp was established; he served on the Capital
17 Campaign when the current CMT YMCA building was built; he was a
18 member of the library board of the Collinsville Memorial Public
19 Library and the CMPL Foundation; the Blum House was another of
20 his projects during the time of Sunday night concerts on the
21 lawn and the "Gentle Voices Calling" fundraisers at the
22 historic Glenwood Cemetery; and

23 WHEREAS, William Metzger was a member of the First United
24 Methodist Church in Collinsville, where he was the financial

1 secretary for many years; when his children were growing up, he
2 helped with their activities, including coaching baseball and
3 timing at swim meets; he was always there to support his
4 children and grandchildren; he took pride in his yard and
5 enjoyed his unique deck; and

6 WHEREAS, William Metzger was preceded in death by his
7 parents; and

8 WHEREAS, William Metzger is survived by his wife, Lois; his
9 son, William Mathew (Dana) Metzger; his daughters, Ellen
10 Christine (Ben) Birch, and Susan Marie (Chris) Peters; his
11 grandchildren, Brett William Metzger, Cole Mathew Metzger,
12 Darci Lynn Metzger, Benton William Birch, Elizabeth Ann Birch,
13 Catherine Christine Birch, Mathew James Birch, Emily Ann
14 Peters, Maxwell James Peters, and Abigail Rose Peters; and his
15 sister, Virginia Metzger Shover; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
18 William James "Bill" Metzger, and extend our sincere
19 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
20 him; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of William Metzger as an expression of

1 our deepest sympathy.