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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 Harbert James Jones Sr. of Rantoul, who passed away on June 29, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Harbert Jones was born in Simmesport, Louisiana to Nelse and Cassandra (Herrell) Jones on July 29, 1943; he started his military career immediately out of high school and served four years in the United States Air Force; he then received a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Dayton; he re-enlisted in the Air Force in Officers Training and served another eight years; he served another 14 years at Maxwell Air Force Base and Chanute Air Force Base; he later earned his education certification in art, his administrative certification, and his master's in education administration at Eastern Illinois University; he married Betty Brown in Forrest City, Arkansas on August 11, 1979; and

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WHEREAS, Harbert Jones was an educator in the Champaign, Urbana, and Rantoul school districts; he taught for over 20 years; he was nicknamed by a student as "Coach Cool Breeze"; he coached high school track and field and cross country at Urbana and was inducted into their Hall of Fame; he also coached at Champaign Central High School, Rantoul Township High School, and St. Thomas More High School; and

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1 WHEREAS, Harbert Jones was a member of the Baha'i Faith
2 Community in Urbana; he was also a member of American Legion
3 Post 287; he loved drawing, painting, sculptures, and
4 photography; he was an avid sports fan; and

5 WHEREAS, Harbert Jones was preceded in death by his parents
6 and eight siblings; and

7 WHEREAS, Harbert Jones is survived by his wife, Betty; his
8 son, Harbert Jones Jr.; his daughter, Katherine Jones; his
9 stepson, Bruce (Vivian) Jones; his sisters, Velma Guidry,
10 Evelyn Perkins, Linda Wilson, Sheila (John) Williams, and
11 Emogene (Zayne) Polk; and his brothers, Cleveland (Merle) Jones
12 and Nelse Jones III; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Harbert James Jones Sr., and extend our sincere condolences to
16 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Harbert Jones as an expression of
20 our deepest sympathy.