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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 Joychen Chemmachel, who passed away on February 9, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel was born on May 6, 1963; he emigrated from India to Chicago in 1986; he became the founding president of the Knanaya Catholic Youth League Chicago in 1986 and the founding president of the Illinois Malayalee Association in 1991; and

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WHEREAS, In 1992, Joy Chemmachel started America's first Malayalam channel, Pranaam Bharat TV; he served as the Illinois Malayalee Association Inter-State Cultural Festival Chairman in 1999 and as vice president and global convention chairman of FOKANA in 2000; he was also president of the Knanaya Catholic Society Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel began acting in movies and tele-serials in 2002; he received numerous awards for his talent, including the Critics Award for Best Actor (2003), the Critics Award for Best Tele-Cinema (2004), the Anthra Film Critics Award (2004), the FOKANA Film Award (2005), the Anthra Critics Award for Best Actor (2005), the Tamil Nadu Government award for Best Movie (2005), and the Critics Award for

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1 Anchoring the Best Pravaasi Television Show (2006); and

2 WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel was a very giving person and always  
3 helped people who needed him, day or night; in 2006, he  
4 received the AGAPE Award for Charity; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2006, Joy Chemmachel served as general  
6 secretary of FOKANA; in 2014, he served as the FOKANA  
7 Convention General Convener; and

8 WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel established JYES Farm in Neendoor,  
9 Kerala, India in 2005, and it plays a vital role in sustaining  
10 the farming culture of India; he received the Kathir Award for  
11 Best Farmer in 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel was a devoted member of St.  
13 Michael's Church in Neendoor, India and was most recently a  
14 trustee of St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church in Morton Grove;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Joy Chemmachel was an accomplished actor, artist,  
17 activist, businessman, and farmer; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
20 Joychen Chemmachel and extend our sincere condolences to his

1 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
2 further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to the family of Joy Chemmachel as an expression of  
5 our deepest sympathy.