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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 Claire Bataille on December 30, 2018 at the age of 66; and

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WHEREAS, Claire Bataille, the daughter of Joseph and Marie Bolvin Bataille, was born on November 6, 1952 in Elmhurst; and

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WHEREAS, Claire Bataille was at the forefront of the Chicago dance scene for more than 40 years and was a founding member and lead dancer of the Hubbard Street Dance Company, where she performed works created by Lou Conte, Twyla Tharp, Lynne Taylor-Corbett, Daniel Ezralow, John McFall, and Margo Sappington; in 1992, she received the Ruth Page Award for Outstanding Dancer; and

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WHEREAS, From 1977 to 2001, Claire Bataille served the Hubbard Street Dance Company (HSDC) as assistant artistic director, ballet mistress, and rehearsal director; as a resident choreographer, she created five works for HSDC and toured nationally and internationally with the company; and

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WHEREAS, In addition to HSDC, Claire Bataille created works as a choreographer for Spectrum Dance Theater in Seattle, Akasha Dance Company in Chicago, and the Tennessee Children's

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1 Dance Ensemble, among others; in 1993, she conceived,
2 choreographed, and directed "Lifetimes" for the WTTW
3 production of "Love in 4 Acts"; and

4 WHEREAS, Claire Bataille began teaching at the Lou Conte
5 Dance Studio in 1975, where she directed and taught until late
6 2018; she also served as a guest teacher for many Chicago-area
7 companies; and

8 WHEREAS, Claire Bataille became a Pilates instructor in
9 2003 after studying with Romana's Pilates in New York; she was
10 appointed associate director of the Lou Conte Dance Studio at
11 the Hubbard Street Dance Center in 2005 and director in 2008;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Claire Bataille lived as she danced, with grace,
14 high standards, and generosity; she is remembered by a large
15 multigenerational community of artists, friends, family, and
16 others who learned from her and loved her dearly; when she
17 became ill, the Claire Bataille Scholarship Fund was
18 established to reflect her altruism by supporting free training
19 for dancers aged 17 to 23 on the cusp of professional careers;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Claire Bataille is survived by her sons, Isaac
22 Sorsa and Jack Sorsa; their father, Don Sorsa; and her

1 brothers, Abbot Vincent P. Bataille and retired Army Major
2 General Emile Bataille (Carol); therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
5 Claire Bataille and extend our sincere condolences to her
6 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Claire Bataille as an expression of
10 our deepest sympathy.