



SR1590

LRB101 23202 LAW 74345 r

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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 Zuhair M. ElSaffar, Ph.D., who passed away on August 15, 2020 at the age of 85; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar was born in Baghdad, Iraq in 1935; he was awarded a scholarship to study in Britain at 17, where he earned his Ph.D. in Physics from the University College of North Wales in Bangor; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar began his teaching career at Michigan State University in the 1960s and continued at the University of Baghdad, teaching physics at both schools; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar was hired by the Oak Ridge National Lab in Tennessee to research nuclear magnetic resonance in 1965; a year later, he received the honor of leading Iraq's civilian nuclear energy program and returned to Iraq; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar returned to the United States and moved to Chicago in 1968, where he served as a physics professor at DePaul University; he also conducted research for the Argonne National Laboratory; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar moved to River Forest with his family

1 in 1970, and he remained a River Forest resident for the rest  
2 of his life; he began investing in real estate in Oak Park,  
3 River Forest, and Forest Park in 1977; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar suffered a stroke and retired from  
5 DePaul University in 1987; post-retirement, his  
6 entrepreneurial spirit continued, and he dedicated a majority  
7 of his efforts to his business and investments in the  
8 community; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. ElSaffar is survived by his wife, Bushra; his  
10 five children, Azhaar, Nadia, Ali, Dena, and Amir; and his two  
11 grandchildren, Jamil Moore and Layla Moore; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
14 Zuhair M. ElSaffar, Ph.D. and extend our sincere condolences to  
15 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of Dr. ElSaffar as an expression of our  
19 deepest sympathy.