

1

## SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of  
3 Illinois learned with regret of the death of their former  
4 colleague, the Honorable Robert J. Egan, former State  
5 Senator, of Edgebrook on Monday, September 15, 2003; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Egan was born in Chicago in 1931; he  
7 attended St. Ita Elementary School, earned his high school  
8 diploma from St. Norbert Academy in West De Pere, Wisconsin,  
9 and earned a B.A. in English from St. Norbert College in the  
10 same town; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Egan valiantly served his country as a  
12 lieutenant in the U.S. Army infantry in Korea; he then worked  
13 his way through law school at Loyola University with jobs as  
14 a house painter; he met and married Marie Therese Gillespie  
15 while he was in law school, and he became a lawyer in 1959;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Egan and his family settled in Edgebrook,  
18 where he became a precinct captain in Roman Pucinski's  
19 Northwest Side political organization; he was an assistant  
20 trial judge in the old Municipal Court system, where he was  
21 involved in the city's fight against installment credit  
22 racketeering; he was an Assistant State Attorney General  
23 under William G. Clark from 1964 to 1968, working as  
24 legislative counsel and as chief of the newly created  
25 anti-trust division; and

26           WHEREAS, Mr. Egan was elected to the Illinois Senate in  
27 1970, lost the 1972 race, then was elected in 1974 and served  
28 through 1984; in 1971 he backed 7 "law and order" bills, one  
29 of them requiring doctors and nurses to report treating  
30 victims of gunshot wounds, poisoning, and other crimes;  
31 later, he sponsored bills to provide tax exemptions for home  
32 improvements, to ban phosphates in detergents, and to limit

1 abortions; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Egan was deputy treasurer of Illinois from  
3 1985 until 1986, and was appointed a judge of the Circuit  
4 Court of Cook County 1987-88, when he retired and returned to  
5 private practice; he served throughout the 1990s as a member  
6 of the Illinois Supreme Court's review board of the Attorney  
7 Registration and Disciplinary Commission; and

8 WHEREAS, The passing of the Honorable Robert J. Egan has  
9 been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Marie Therese;  
10 his three daughters, Beth Egan, Margie Benjamin, and Sarah  
11 Melaniphy; his two sons, Robert J. Egan Jr. and Frank Egan;  
12 his brother, James Egan; and his four grandchildren;  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing  
16 of our colleague, the Honorable Robert J. Egan, a man who  
17 served the people of the State of Illinois with honor and  
18 distinction; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of Mr. Egan as an expression of our  
21 sincerest condolences during their time of bereavement.