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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Charles George Whinfrey, Jr., of Geneva on Tuesday, March 29, 2005; and

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WHEREAS, He was born on September 11, 1922, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Charles G. Sr. and Myrtle Whinfrey; as a child growing up in New Jersey, he felt the impact of the Great Depression when his family lost everything; he attended Rutgers University for two years before enlisting in the service in 1944; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Whinfrey valiantly served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy during World War II, when he was commissioned as an officer; he served as captain of the minesweeper USS Reedbird for 16 months off the coast of Pearl Harbor and in the Panama Canal, attaining the rank of lieutenant; and

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WHEREAS, After his military discharge, he enrolled at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where he received a bachelor's degree in science and agriculture; in 1946, he married the former Mary Kirk, his college sweetheart and wife of 59 years; and

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WHEREAS, He began his career in the chemical industry in the sales division of PennSalt Co. in Philadelphia; he was transferred to the company's office in Aurora in 1955, where he worked for several years before becoming a sales manager for Great Lakes Solvent in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, In 1963, Mr. Whinfrey founded Producers Chemical Co., a chemical distribution company in Batavia; he ran the company for 23 years before turning over the reins to other family members after his retirement in 1986; during the early years, he worked as a one-man operation; when he went on to

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1 employ others in his company, he looked for ways to increase
2 their financial security by offering employee benefits such as
3 a profit-sharing plan, an uncommon thing in the 1960s; and

4 WHEREAS, The passing of Charles George Whinfrey, Jr., has
5 been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Mary; his
6 children, Donald (Virginia) Whinfrey, Peter (Judy) Whinfrey,
7 and Jane (Roger) Harris; his grandchildren, Scott, Abigail,
8 Emily, and Andrew; and his brother, David Whinfrey; therefore,
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
12 Charles George Whinfrey, Jr., and we extend our deepest
13 sympathy to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
14 him; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to his family as an expression of our sincere
17 condolences.