



1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Alphonse G. Guajardo of Chicago passed away on May
3 10, 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Guajardo was born in the town of Allende in
5 the Mexican state of Coahuila; his father, Francisco, brought
6 the family to Chicago in 1958; and

7 WHEREAS, He was a quick learner and picked up English while
8 playing baseball and football with the neighborhood children;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, He graduated from the University of Illinois at
11 Chicago with a degree in architecture in 1972; his first job
12 was with the leading architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings &
13 Merrill; he lived in the mostly Muslim city of Tehran, Iran,
14 for nearly a year during an assignment for Skidmore, Owings &
15 Merrill and found the whole experience fascinating; and

16 WHEREAS, He established his own firm, Guajardo REC
17 Architects, in 1989 and was the managing principal; he was a
18 champion for economic growth and development in Chicago's
19 Latino neighborhoods; and

20 WHEREAS, He designed numerous Chicago-area buildings,
21 including schools, fire stations, and libraries; he was
22 especially interested in creating low-income housing and
23 developing Spanish-speaking neighborhoods; his firm was
24 responsible for designing the new Jose Clemente Orozco Academy,
25 Zapata Academy, an addition to Cristo Rey Jesuit High School,
26 and Pilsen's 18th Street streetscape; and

27 WHEREAS, He was always proud of his Mexican heritage and
28 respected other cultures and religions; he was raised Catholic
29 and also converted to Judaism; and

1 WHEREAS, Alphonse G. Guajardo was the beloved husband of
2 Judith (nee Lederman); devoted father of R. Joshua Glenn,
3 Alexandra Ise Guajardo, and Micaela Rose Guajardo; and dear
4 brother of Juan Antonio (Lenore) Guajardo and Isabel (Demetrio)
5 Rojas; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we express our sorrow
8 upon the passing of Alphonse G. Guajardo and extend to his
9 family, friends, and community our most heartfelt sympathy; and
10 be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest
13 condolences.