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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 William Allen Rain of Alton on Sunday, September 18, 2005; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Alton on October 6, 1921, to Clifford and Eleanor (Rice) Rain; he married the former Nadine E. Hissrich of East St. Louis on February 9, 1946; they shared almost 60 beautiful years together; and

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WHEREAS, He attended Alton schools and William Jewel College in Liberty, Missouri, where he was a member of the football team and Sigma Nu fraternity; he enlisted in the Army Air Corps shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor; he received training as an armorer, parachute rigger, and graduated as a pilot at La Junta, Colorado; later, he was based in Lincoln, Nebraska, as a B-25 pilot when World War II ended; and

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WHEREAS, Following his honorable discharge, he returned home to join the family grocery store, Rain and Rain, located in North Alton; when the store closed in 1988, the Rain family had been in business for 111 years; after his retirement, he joined the advertising staff of the Advantage for a short time; and

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WHEREAS, He was very involved for many years with the Boy Scouts of America; in 1946, he started Troop 7 of Elm Street Presbyterian Church, which is still active today; he served as a Scout Leader, institutional representative, and camp inspector; for his dedicated service, he was awarded the Scout Statuette and also one of the highest honors, the Silver Beaver; he was a charter member of the Alton Volunteer Emergency Corps, serving as the commander at one time; he was made a life member of that organization; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 1993, Mr. Rain was elected to serve as one of
2 the village of Godfrey's trustees; he held that position for
3 four years; in 1996, his creative writings were made into a
4 book entitled "Buffalo"; this western novel was published a
5 year later and sold more than 3,000 copies; he was a member of
6 Main Street Methodist Church and served as an usher for many
7 years; he later joined the Emmanuel Free Methodist Church; and

8 WHEREAS, The passing of William Allen Rain has been deeply
9 felt by many, especially his wife, Nadine; his children and
10 their spouses, William A. "Bud" and Cheryl Rain Jr., Charles A.
11 "Tony" and Wanda Rain, and Amy R. and Mick Monahan; his
12 grandsons and a spouse, Nathan and Jennifer Rain and their
13 daughter, Emma, Jeremy Rain, and Scott and Patrick Monahan; his
14 brother and his wife, Jack and Betty Rain; his sister-in-law,
15 Helen (Mrs. William) Wimmer; and his other extended family
16 members and many dear friends; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
19 William Allen Rain, and we extend our sincere condolences to
20 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
23 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest
24 sympathy.