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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 Marva Joyce Ryskiewicz of Waukegan on Thursday, September 21, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Ryskiewicz was a dance teacher known to hundreds of Lake County students; her career as a teacher of dance spanned 53 years; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Ryskiewicz started her first dance studio just after her graduation from Waukegan High School in 1953; she was just 17 years old; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Ryskiewicz performed in the Chicago area for a number of years; tap dancing was her forte; and

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WHEREAS, Her Applause with Marva Joyce Dance Studio opened in Waukegan in 1973 and was open until September of 2005, when Mrs. Ryskiewicz learned that she had brain cancer; and

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WHEREAS, While undergoing radiation treatment and surgeries, Mrs. Ryskiewicz demonstrated her amazing spirit and love for dance in creating what she called "The Cancer Dance", which she literally choreographed from her bed in the intensive care unit; and

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WHEREAS, Mrs. Ryskiewicz was known for teaching her students what she knew about life; she talked about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, discussed relationships, animal rights, and other topics, and advised students to stay in school, go on to college, and to see the world; these informal lessons were sometimes called "Marva 101" by her students; and

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WHEREAS, She was known as a true legend throughout her community; in addition to teaching so many students how to

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1 dance, she also taught them about life and how to be better
2 people; and

3 WHEREAS, She was preceded in death by her parents, Anton
4 and Sylvia Tersar; and

5 WHEREAS, The passing of Marva Joyce Ryskiewicz has been
6 deeply felt by many, especially her husband, John, and the many
7 students whose lives she touched throughout the years, who were
8 like children to her; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Marva Joyce Ryskiewicz, and we extend our sincerest condolences
12 to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be
13 it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to her family as an expression of our deepest
16 sympathy for their loss.