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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of G. Phil Heckel of Carterville, who passed away on January 28, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was born on June 25, 1914 in Carterville; his parents were A.G. and Linda (Alford) Heckel; he married Ruth Stefanoff on August 8, 1939 in Belleville; and

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WHEREAS, Phil Heckel attended college at Southern Illinois University and the University of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Phil Heckel honorably served his country in the United States Navy during World War II, serving as a 1st class aviation storekeeper aboard the U.S.S. Fortune; and

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WHEREAS, Phil Heckel owned and operated Heckel's Department Store for over 50 years; he was owner of the Crab Orchard Golf Club, which he operated with his son, Steve; he also served on the board and was past president of Carterville State and Savings Bank for over 50 years; and

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WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was a 50-year member and past president of the Carterville Lions Club; he also served on the Williamson County Airport Authority Board for 24 years; and

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1 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was a staunch supporter of the
2 Carterville School system, John A. Logan College, and Southern
3 Illinois University; he also served on the Carterville School
4 Board and was integral in getting John A. Logan College
5 established in Carterville; and

6 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was a member of the Carterville
7 Presbyterian Church; and

8 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was an avid golfer; and

9 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel was preceded in death by his parents
10 and his brothers, Alford, Charles, and Eugene; and

11 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel is survived by his wife, Ruth; his
12 son, Stephen and life companion, Jura Perkins; his daughter and
13 son-in-law, Linda and Bob Coffield; his grandchildren, Matt and
14 Tammy Heckel, Laura and Rob Reynolds, Amy Coffield and fiancé,
15 Doug Owens, and Phillip Heckel; and his great-grandchildren,
16 Hannah, Jonathan, and Kate Heckel and Amanda, Emily, and Sarah
17 Reynolds; and

18 WHEREAS, Phil Heckel will be remembered by all who knew and
19 loved him as a wonderful person whose zest for life, positive
20 attitude, and giving spirit endeared him to everyone he knew;

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
4 his family and friends, the passing of G. Phil Heckel; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of G. Phil Heckel as an expression of
8 our sympathy.