



SR0980

LRB095 23267 GRL 53943 r

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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 our esteemed colleague, former Illinois Representative and Senator Thaddeus "Ted" Lechowicz, who passed away on January 5, 2009; and

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WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz was born on December 20, 1938; after graduating from Weber High School, he worked in a butcher shop to put himself through college, receiving an associate's degree from Wright Junior College and then a bachelor's degree in economics from North Park College in 1960; he then performed some graduate work at DePaul University; and

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WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz served his country with pride and distinction as a member of the United States Army as the Commander of Company A, 108 Supply and Transportation Battalion of the 33rd Division; he later served in the United States Army National Guard, achieving the rank of 1st Lieutenant; and

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WHEREAS, After graduating from college, Ted Lechowicz went to work as a systems analyst for the Cook County Circuit Courts; at the same time, he worked with the Democratic Party as a precinct captain; and

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WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz was elected to the Illinois General

1 Assembly in 1969, serving the people as Representative of
2 Illinois' 17th Representative District; rising rapidly through
3 the ranks, he served as Assistant Majority Leader during the
4 81st General Assembly and Assistant Minority Leader during the
5 82nd General Assembly; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1983, Ted Lechowicz was elected to serve the
7 people as Senator of Illinois' 6th Legislative District; once
8 again displaying his natural aptitude for leadership, he rose
9 through the ranks, serving as Assistant Majority Leader until
10 his retirement in 1992; and

11 WHEREAS, During his tenure in the Senate, Ted Lechowicz
12 served on many committees, including the Appropriations I,
13 Executive, Executive Appointments and Veterans' Affairs, State
14 Government Organization and Administration, and Transportation
15 committees; he served as vice-chairman of the Elections and
16 Reapportionment committee and served on the Economic and Fiscal
17 Commission and the Legislative Space Needs Commission; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1990, Ted Lechowicz was elected to the Cook
19 County Board of Commissioners, serving until 2002; and

20 WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz was a member of numerous community
21 organizations, including the Polish National Alliance, the
22 Chicago Society, the Moose Lodge, the Knights of Columbus, the

1 Holy Name Society, Felician College, and the Lockwood
2 Improvement Association; and

3 WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz was the recipient of numerous awards
4 from organizations such as the Young Democrats of Illinois, the
5 Polish American Police Association of Chicago, the Veterans of
6 Foreign Wars, the AFL-CIO, the United Polish American Council,
7 the Copernicus Foundation, the Wisla S.A.C., the Better Boys
8 Foundation, and the Northwest Lions; and

9 WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz is survived by his wife of 44 years,
10 Suzanne; his son, Edward; and his four grandchildren; and

11 WHEREAS, Ted Lechowicz will be remembered by his former
12 colleagues, former constituents, and loved ones as a forceful
13 and effective legislator and as a warm and caring man;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
17 his family and friends, the passing of our former colleague,
18 Thaddeus "Ted" Lechowicz; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Ted Lechowicz as an expression of
21 our sympathy.