



SR0911

LRB096 23285 GRL 42635 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 John W. Cockrell of Eagle River, Wisconsin, formerly of Downers Grove, who passed away on June 28, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, John Cockrell was born on January 17, 1923, in Brookfield; his parents were Willis and Anna Cockrell; he married Helen T. Cinker in 1949; and

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WHEREAS, John Cockrell attended St. Joseph Catholic School and Downers Grove North High School; and

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WHEREAS, John Cockrell served his country with pride and distinction as a member of the U.S. Army during World War II in the Pacific theatre; and

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WHEREAS, John Cockrell was an active member of the Fairview Homeowners Association when he and his wife built their first home on Washington Street in Downers Grove; at that time, he owned and operated DuPage Excavating and was a member of Local 150; in 1958, he was elected to serve as Justice of the Peace from Downers Grove Township; he was subsequently elected to serve as Magistrate of the DuPage County Circuit Court; in 1962, he began working in the Circuit Clerk's office,

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1 introducing computers to facilitate the second largest court
2 system in Illinois; in 1971, John was elected to serve as Clerk
3 of the 18th Judicial Circuit Court, remaining in that position
4 until his retirement in 1991; and

5 WHEREAS, During his career, John Cockrell served as
6 President of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks,
7 President of the Illinois Association of County Officials, and
8 member of the DuPage County Law Enforcement Commission and the
9 Crescent Criminal Justice Authority; he was also an active
10 member of the Downers Grove Township Republican Organization,
11 the Downers Grove Lions Club, and the St. Joseph Catholic
12 Church; and

13 WHEREAS, After his retirement, John Cockrell and his wife
14 made their home in Eagle River, Wisconsin; while in Eagle
15 River, he was on the board at the Kalmar Senior Center and an
16 active member of the Northwood's Carvers; he also enjoyed
17 fishing, golfing, painting, wood carving, playing cards, and
18 visiting with his family and friends; and

19 WHEREAS, John Cockrell is survived by his beloved wife of
20 61 years, Helen; his daughters, Susan Sheldon, Theresa
21 Cockrell, and Janis (James) Gorski; his sister, Anna Johnston;
22 his grandchildren, Amanda (Mark) Roe, Amber (Collin) Verbick,
23 and Daniel and Emily Gorski; and his great-grandchildren,

1 Evelyn and Miles Roe; therefore, be it

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

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