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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 Wayne E. Van Dyke of Gurnee, who passed away on July 26, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke was born on May 29, 1924, in Assumption; as a child, he lived in Havana until his family moved to Champaign; he married Frances Matijevich on November 9, 1957, at Holy Family Church; after his marriage, he and his wife lived in Waukegan before relocating to Blythe, California; the family subsequently lived in Fort Meyers, Florida and Gurnee; and

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WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke attended the University of Illinois before enlisting in the United States Army at the age of 18; as a member of Company B, 41st Tank Battalion, 11th Armored Division of General George Patton's 3rd Army, he saw combat during World War II in the Battle of the Bulge and fought throughout Europe, from France to Austria as a gunner, and subsequently as a tank commander; he was the recipient of the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the British Military Medal, and Luxembourg's Croix de Guerre for his meritorious service; and

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WHEREAS, After his service with the Army, Wayne Van Dyke

1 resumed his education and earned a bachelor's degree in
2 engineering from the University of Illinois in Champaign; he
3 subsequently undertook graduate studies at Lake Forest
4 College's Graduate School of Management; and

5 WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke retired from Johns-Manville Corp.
6 as a senior industrial engineer after 26 years of service; from
7 1963 to 1969, he and his family moved to Blythe, California and
8 learned to enjoy the desert while operating their motel; and

9 WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke was a member of Johns-Manville's
10 Quarter Century Club, the 11th Armored Division Association,
11 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Fort Meyers, Florida chapter;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke enjoyed golfing, fishing, playing
14 cards and games with his friends and grandchildren, and
15 attending annual reunions with his army buddies and TNK College
16 friends; and

17 WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke was preceded in death by his
18 granddaughter, Kathryn Joanna Walin; his parents, S. Howard and
19 Nellie Van Dyke; and his brothers, Neil and Lindell Van Dyke;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Wayne Van Dyke is survived by his wife of 54

1 years, Frances; his children, Michael (Natasha), David
2 (Karen), and Ann (John) Walin; his grandchildren, John "Jack"
3 and Kristina "Kristy" Walin, Devin and John Van Dyke, and
4 Alexander Van Dyke; his sister, Alice (Andrew) Ekblaw; his
5 sisters-in-law, Joanne Van Dyke and Julia Van Dyke, and their
6 families; his in-laws, Rose Matijevich and John (Agnes)
7 Matijevich, and their son, Robert John; and his long time
8 neighbor, Charles Carpenter, and his nephew, John Rice;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
12 his family and friends, the passing of Wayne Van Dyke; and be
13 it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Wayne Van Dyke as an expression of
16 our sympathy.