



SR1066

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Illinois State Senator Chris Lauzen has represented the citizens of Kane, Kendall, and LaSalle counties and northeastern Illinois with distinction in the Illinois State Senate for 20 years; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was first elected to the Senate in 1992, promising to "work hard, stay honest, and use common sense"; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was one of a group of newly-elected conservative State senators known as the "Fab Five", including Senator Dave Syverson, Senator Steve Rauschenberger, Senator Patrick O'Malley, and Senator Peter Fitzgerald, who consistently voted to limit the size of government, protect individual freedoms, expose corruption in both parties, and introduce fair accounting rules to the State budget; and

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WHEREAS, Throughout his two decades of service, Senator Lauzen has represented his constituents in Springfield with determination and distinction, fighting hard to make the State of Illinois a better place to live and work; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen personally responds to all correspondence, telephone calls or emails, he receives from

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1 constituents; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen started "Illinois Porkbusters",  
3 which seeks to cut \$5 million in wasteful spending each year  
4 from the State budget; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen sponsored a property tax  
6 assessment freeze for homeowners older than 65 with incomes  
7 less than \$35,000, was the lead sponsor of the "5% Pay Cut for  
8 Politicians" legislation, and sponsored the largest employment  
9 tax decrease in the past 16 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen worked to reduce property taxes on  
11 VFW and American Legion veterans' posts by 85% and place a cap  
12 on future increases; and

13 WHEREAS, As a supporter of effective public education,  
14 Senator Lauzen helped secure more than \$48 million for school  
15 construction grants; he sponsored education license plates for  
16 future teachers' scholarships and was the only senator to speak  
17 out and vote against tuition discounts for illegal immigrants  
18 at public universities; and

19 WHEREAS, To counter the rising costs of medical care,  
20 Senator Lauzen launched a prescription medication pilot  
21 program that saved participants an average of 50% on the cost

1 of drugs, at no expense to taxpayers; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen sponsored a ban on intact dilation  
3 and extraction abortion; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was the original lead sponsor of  
5 the Breast Cancer Research voluntary check-off on the State  
6 personal income tax return, which has raised millions of  
7 dollars for breast cancer research; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen served as Republican Spokesman of  
9 the Senate Revenue Committee since 2003; he was a member of the  
10 Senate Pensions and Investments Committee, the Senate  
11 Appropriations I and II committees, and was co-chair of the  
12 Legislative Audit Commission; and

13 WHEREAS, In recognition of his consistently pro-employment  
14 record, Senator Lauzen was honored by the Illinois Chamber of  
15 Commerce with the "Champion of Free Enterprise" award in 2002  
16 and 2012, and by the NFIB with the "Guardian of Small Business"  
17 award in 1996; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen also received the John Ericcson  
19 Republican League of Illinois Award in 2011, the Illinois Farm  
20 Bureau Friend of Agriculture Activator Award in 2008 and 2010,  
21 the IATCD Legislator of the Year in 2009, the A.B.A.T.E.

1 Recognition of Support of Our Freedom Award in 2009, the  
2 Illinois Civil Justice League "Friends of Fairness" Award in  
3 2007, the Army National Guard Certificate of Appreciation  
4 Support of the Illinois Army National Guard and Charlie Troop  
5 2/106th Calvary in 2007, the Outstanding Senator Award from the  
6 DuPage County Farm Bureau, the Education Center Community  
7 Leadership Award in 2000, the Holy Angels School Alumnus of the  
8 Year in 1999, the Illinois Family Institute Leadership Award in  
9 1997, the Marmion Academy Centurion Award in 1996, the Family  
10 PAC Legislator of the Year in 1996, and the Y-Me National  
11 Breast Cancer Organization Award in Excellence in 1994; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen is a nationally recognized expert  
13 on public pensions; he spoke at the American Legislative  
14 Exchange Council's 2009 Convention in New Orleans, at the  
15 National Conference of State Legislatures' 2009 Convention in  
16 Philadelphia, and at the 2010 U.S. Chamber of Commerce event  
17 broadcast on C-SPAN; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was a member of the Illinois  
19 Economic and Fiscal Commission and the Illinois State Crime  
20 Commission; and

21 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen published an article about  
22 education reform with the Heartland Institute and was also a  
23 member of the Institute's Legislative Forum; and

1           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was an elected delegate for the  
2 White House Conference on Small Business in Washington, D.C.,  
3 in 1995; and

4           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was appointed to the Economic  
5 Development Board by Sam Skinner; and

6           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen has been involved in the Lions  
7 Clubs in several communities, numerous local Chambers of  
8 Commerce, the Compassion Foundation Board of Directors, the Fox  
9 Valley Maoris Rugby team, the Heart of Illinois POW/MIA  
10 Association, the Sons of the American Legion, and the Illinois  
11 Republican National Hispanic Assembly; and

12           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen was born in Aurora, Illinois, and  
13 raised in the Pigeon Hill neighborhood; and

14           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen earned a bachelor of science degree  
15 with honors in management science and english in 1974 from Duke  
16 University; he received his Certified Public Accountant  
17 credentials in 1976 from the University of Illinois and a  
18 master's degree in business administration in 1978 from Harvard  
19 Business School; and

20           WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen is a player/member of the Harvard

1 Old Boy Rugby Team; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen is currently pursuing a doctorate  
3 in education finance from Northern Illinois University; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen worked as the president of the  
5 Comprehensive Accounting Corporation, where he helped teach  
6 more than 300 accountants how to go into business for  
7 themselves; and

8 WHEREAS, During his 5 years as president, the number of  
9 franchise offices tripled to 450 nationwide, pre-tax profit  
10 doubled, and the network of accountants served more than 22,000  
11 small-business owners; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen and his wife later purchased a  
13 Comprehensive Accounting franchise, and in less than  
14 four-and-a-half years, he was managing the books and tax  
15 preparation for more than 200 small businesses in the local  
16 area; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen's grandparents emigrated from  
18 Romania to the United States in the early 20th century; and

19 WHEREAS, On July 28, 2006, Romanian President Traian  
20 Basescu awarded him the Order of the Star of Romania Medal,

1 Commander Rank (the highest commendation granted to a foreign  
2 citizen by Romania), in recognition of his work to "build  
3 bridges of friendship and commerce between the people of  
4 Romania and the United States"; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Lauzen and his wife, Sarah, are the proud  
6 parents of Ted (wife, Sarah), Elliot, Hans, and Robbie;  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Senator  
10 Lauzen on his retirement from the Illinois State Senate after  
11 20 years of honorable and dedicated service; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this preamble and  
13 resolution be presented to Senator Lauzen with our friendship,  
14 our gratitude for his hard work, and our best wishes for his  
15 future endeavors, including his service as chairman of the Kane  
16 County Board.