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LRB098 16105 MST 51435 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 James Michael "Jim" Drozdz of Hamilton, who passed away on December 29, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz was born on January 23, 1960 in Chicago to James A. and Joan M. (nee Moore) Drozdz; he graduated from Alan B. Sheperd High School in Palos Heights and received his bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement in 1981 from Western Illinois University; he married Barbara Goodin on June 2, 1984 at St. Paul Church in Macomb; he received his master's degree from Western Illinois University in 1990, where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and his Juris Doctor in 1992 from the Southern Illinois University School of Law and was admitted to practice before the Illinois courts; in 1999, he was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and in 2004 he received his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Iowa, where he was a member of the Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society; and

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WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz served with the Illinois State Police from 1984 until 2004 when he was elected the State's Attorney for Hancock County; he was re-elected in 2008 and 2012; during his time with the Illinois State Police he served in many capacities, including the Executive Directorship of the

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1 Division of Internal Investigation in Springfield, as the  
2 Henderson County Assistant State's Attorney, as an Adjunct  
3 Professor in the Law Enforcement and Justice Administration  
4 Department at Western Illinois University, and as a Research  
5 Fellow with the International Association of Chiefs of Police  
6 in Alexandria, Virginia; he also served as Special Assistant to  
7 the Illinois Attorney General and was a Legal Advisor to the  
8 Illinois State Police in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit; he  
9 was a member of the National District Attorneys' Association  
10 and the Hancock County Bar Association; and

11 WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz was an active community member, serving  
12 as a paramedic for the Hancock County Ambulance Service as as a  
13 firefighter for the Hamilton Fire Department; he was a member  
14 and past President of the Carthage Kiwanis Club and former  
15 member of the Carthage Lions Club; he was on the Hancock County  
16 Republican Precinct Committee and was an active member of the  
17 Knights of Columbus and the Immaculate Conception Christian  
18 Church in Carthage, where he served on the Parish Council; and

19 WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz enjoyed playing the bagpipes for area  
20 events and funerals; he liked body building, fitness training,  
21 traveling, semi-truck driving, and teaching Criminal Law,  
22 Criminal Procedure, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency  
23 Medical Technician classes; and

1           WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz was preceded in death by his  
2 grandparents; his aunts and uncles; his cousin; and an infant  
3 nephew; and

4           WHEREAS, Jim Drozdz is survived by his wife, Barbara; his  
5 father, James Drozdz; his mother and step-father, Joan and  
6 Gordon Brown; his sister, Debra Reule; his father-in-law and  
7 mother-in-law, Carol and Margie Goodin; his sister-in-law,  
8 Mary (Dale) Thompson; his brothers-in-law, David Goodin and  
9 Daniel (Barb Coover) Goodin; his nephews, Mark (fiance, Alex  
10 Porcelli) Thompson, Matthew (Andrea) Thompson, Michael  
11 (fiance, Michele Teslicka) Thompson, and Michael Reule; his  
12 nieces, Samantha (Tyler Huffman) Goodin and Rachel Reule; his  
13 great-niece, Lyllie Huffman; his great-nephew, Tucker  
14 Thompson; and 2 aunts and several cousins; therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
17 James Michael "Jim" Drozdz, and extend our sincere condolences  
18 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be  
19 it further

20           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to the family of Jim Drozdz as an expression of our  
22 deepest sympathy.