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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the deaths of James, Sr. and Joan Simon, both of Bridgeview; and

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WHEREAS, James Simon, Sr. was born in Chicago on April 19, 1933 to Steven and Rose Simon; in 1952, he married Joan Cochrane, who was born in Chicago on February 27, 1934 to William and Marie Cochrane; they settled in Bridgeview in 1953; and

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WHEREAS, James Simon, Sr. began his career as a carpenter, but was called to create a better neighborhood for his community and children; together, he and Joan restarted Boy Scout Troop 13; they also founded the Bridgeview Park District in 1965, with James serving as its Parks Committee Chairman and Commissioner for 6 years; and

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WHEREAS, Joan Simon obtained her bachelor's degree in Applied Behavioral Science from the National College of Education, while serving as the Bridgeview Park District Secretary and, along with James, Sr., founded the Bridgeview Public Library, where she served as a Trustee; she also served as Trustee for the Village of Bridgeview; and

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1 WHEREAS, Joan Simon developed a passion for education and
2 obtained her master's degree in Adult and Continuing Education
3 from National Louis University; she subsequently became an
4 Executive Dean and Vice-President at Prairie State College in
5 Chicago Heights; she retired in 1999; and

6 WHEREAS, James Simon, Sr. found himself called to public
7 service again and helped establish Kids Safe City in
8 Bridgeview, a nonprofit organization designed to teach
9 children safety skills; he and Joan both served on the board of
10 Kids Safe City for many years; and

11 WHEREAS, James, Sr. and Joan Simon loved to spend time with
12 family and friends, host parties, and play cards; James, Sr.
13 also enjoyed cooking and woodworking; Joan enjoyed arts and
14 crafts and the theater; they devoted much of their time to
15 helping others and their community in any way they could; and

16 WHEREAS, James, Sr. Simon passed away on June 22, 2012 and
17 Joan Simon passed away on December 24, 2013; they were preceded
18 in death by their parents; their son, Gary; James, Sr.'s
19 brother, George; and Joan's brother, William; and

20 WHEREAS, James, Sr. and Joan Simon are survived by their
21 children, James (Bridget) Simon, Jr. and Christy Simon (Stanley
22 Wells); their daughter-in-law, Nancy Simon (Gary); James,

1 Sr.'s siblings, Steven (Linda) Simon and Thomas (Joan) Simon;
2 Joan's brother, Richard (Marylou) Cochrane; their
3 grandchildren, Eric (Kali) Simon, Lauren Simon, Rebecca
4 (Timothy) Fuller, and Brian Simon; their great-grandchildren,
5 Ember Simon and Aubrey Fuller; and their many nieces, nephews,
6 cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
9 James, Sr. and Joan Simon, and we extend our sincere
10 condolences to their family, friends, and all who knew and
11 loved them; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of James, Sr. and Joan Simon as an
14 expression of our deepest sympathy.