

SR0770 LRB099 13063 GRL 37085 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to 3 learn of the death of Michael J. Birck; and

WHEREAS, Michael Birck attended Purdue University, where
he played varsity baseball and graduated with a bachelor's
degree in electrical engineering in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Michael Birck served as CEO of Tellabs, Inc., which he co-founded with 5 others during a brainstorming session at his kitchen table in 1975; the company began making echo suppressors designed to improve telephone reception, which led to the company developing an echo canceller in 1981; by 2001, the company made \$3 billion in sales and had 8,900 employees; he retired from his role as CEO of the company in 2004 and retired as chairman in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Michael Birck was a member of Purdue University's Board of Trustees for 14 years until he stepped down from the position in 2013; his philanthropic efforts included gifts of more than \$30 million to the University's nanotechnology center and its golf complex; and

WHEREAS, Michael Birck was a family man who enjoyed playing golf and watching baseball games, both the Chicago Cubs and

- 1 those of his grandchildren; and
- WHEREAS, Michael Birck was the beloved husband of Katherine 2 3 Birck (nee Royer); the loving father of Kevin (Laura) Birck, 4 Joni (Charles) Stevenson, and Christopher (Christine) Birck; 5 the cherished grandfather of Ian Stevenson, Colleen Stevenson, 6 Morgan Birck, Mackenzie Birck, Hannah Stevenson, Christopher 7 "CJ" Birck, and Keely Stevenson; the dear brother of Barbara 8 (Louis) Roehm, Patrick (Nancy) Birck, Jon (Karen) Birck, and 9 Vickie (Ed) McDevitt; the brother-in-law of Betty Shepherd and 10 Joan Smith; and the cherished uncle and good friend of many; 11 therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
  ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
  family and friends, mourn the passing of Michael J. Birck; and
  be it further
- RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Michael Birck as an expression of our sympathy.