



SR0398

LRB104 14827 ECR 27971 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 Officer Daniel Jones "Dan" Willis of the Joliet Police Department, who passed away on August 11, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Officer Willis, the son of Thomas Willis and Dorothy Briestansky, was born in Evergreen Park on November 21, 1972; he graduated from Evergreen High School; and

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WHEREAS, Officer Willis began his career in law enforcement as a cadet with the Palos Hills Police Department; he proceeded to serve as a sheriff's deputy with the Cook County Sheriff's Office and as an officer with the Chicago Police Department; he joined the Joliet Police Department in 2005, where he served in the Patrol Division, the Neighborhood Oriented Policing Team, and most recently, the K-9 Unit; he was also a member of the Joliet Police Honor Guard; during his career, he was noted for his bravery, precision, and fierce dedication, becoming the recipient of numerous awards and commendations; and

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WHEREAS, Officer Willis enjoyed vacationing, boating, and supporting his favorite sports teams, including the Chicago White Sox, the Chicago Blackhawks, and the Chicago Bears; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Willis lived courageously and loved
2 deeply, and he was his family's biggest supporter; he leaves
3 behind a legacy of integrity, kindness, and commitment that
4 will continue to inspire all those who knew him, and he will be
5 remembered for his warm heart, sharp wit, and generous spirit;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Officer Willis was preceded in death by his
8 father-in-law, John T. Hansen; and

9 WHEREAS, Officer Willis is survived by his wife of 21
10 years, Laurie (Hansen) Willis; his sons, Cullen Willis and
11 Mason Willis; his parents; his mother-in-law, Maureen Hansen;
12 his brother-in-law, Chris (Angela) Hansen; four nephews and
13 one niece; his fellow officers; and his K9 partner, Ady;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
17 Officer Daniel Jones "Dan" Willis of the Joliet Police
18 Department and extend our sincere condolences to his family,
19 friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Officer Willis as an expression of

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1 our deepest sympathy.