



SR0436

LRB104 15546 LAW 28711 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Brian Keith Baptist of Jacksonville,
4 who passed away on September 21, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist, the son of Frank "Buzz" and
6 Barbara Baptist, was born in Jacksonville on October 17, 1975;
7 he graduated from Jacksonville High School in 1993, where he
8 was a member of the golf, baseball, and basketball teams; he
9 attended Lewis and Clark Community College before attending
10 MacMurray College, graduating with a degree in education in
11 1998; while at MacMurray College, he was a 1997 NCAA
12 conference champion in golf and a member of the 1997
13 conference championship-winning football team, the
14 Highlanders; he married Jennifer Stevens at Bethel Baptist
15 Church in Chandlerville on September 28, 2001; and

16 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist coached baseball at Jacksonville
17 High School, and he served as a substitute teacher and then as
18 a teacher for the behavioral disorder classes; he returned to
19 MacMurray College to pursue endorsements to teach special
20 education and health classes before choosing to pursue a
21 career in law enforcement; and

22 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist's law enforcement career spanned

1 more than 20 years; he was a member of Basic Law Enforcement
2 Class #2272 at the Police Training Institute in Champaign,
3 graduating in February 2005; he was selected for the Special
4 Response Team in December 2007, and he was assigned to the
5 ILEAS Mobile Field Force in 2008 and the Jacksonville Street
6 Crimes Unit from 2009 to 2012; he was promoted to sergeant on
7 June 22, 2014, and he served in that capacity until his passing
8 with plans to retire in November 2025; during his career, he
9 received letters of commendation for exceptional work in 2011
10 and 2023, and he was named Officer of the Month in February
11 2018; and

12 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist was a lifelong Chicago Cubs fan who
13 was ecstatic when the team won the 2016 World Series; he loved
14 drinking Busch Light and margaritas, spending time at Lake
15 Jacksonville, eating Mexican food, wearing Hawaiian shirts and
16 bucket hats, watching sunsets and National Lampoon's Vacation,
17 going on vacation and to the cabin, hunting, playing Fantasy
18 Football, and collecting everything, including roadside finds;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist was at his most content when he was
21 spending time with his wife, his children, and his friends; he
22 will be remembered for his smile, his ability to make others
23 laugh, and being the life of every party; and

1 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist was preceded in death by his
2 father; his niece, Jenna Protz; and many other family members,
3 friends, and pets; and

4 WHEREAS, Brian Baptist is survived by his wife, Jennifer
5 Baptist; his children, Makenna Baptist and Daxton Baptist; his
6 mother, Barbara Baptist; his sister, Brenda (Heidi) Protz
7 Silveira; his parents-in-law, Daniel and Debra Stevens; his
8 siblings-in-law, Ashley (Justin) Lex and Beau Stevens; his
9 nieces, Brandy (Weston) Protz Rivers, Ryleigh Lex, and Logan
10 Lex; his bonus sisters, Tammy (Tom) Mason Rust and Lisa (Dan)
11 Mason Magelitz; his bonus nephew and niece, Shane Magelitz and
12 Megan Magelitz; his aunts and cousins; his brothers and
13 sisters in law enforcement; his friends; and the family
14 Yorkie, Brylee; 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 Brian Keith Baptist and extend our sincere condolences to his
18 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
19 further

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