



SR0651

LRB104 21083 LAW 35215 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 Michael L. Smoot, who passed away on January 3, 2026; and

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WHEREAS, Michael Smoot, born in Carbondale on February 16, 1943, dedicated his life to public education in Illinois; for more than 37 years, he shaped schools, supported teachers, and improved the lives of countless students; he began his career as a classroom teacher and steadily rose through roles as a principal and an administrator before serving with distinction as superintendent of schools for Wood Dale School District #7 for 25 years; his leadership was marked by integrity, thoughtful strategy, and a deep belief in the potential of every child; and

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WHEREAS, Following his retirement, Michael Smoot received recognition from the Illinois House of Representatives for his exemplary contributions to education, a testament to the esteem he garnered during his career and within the community; and

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WHEREAS, Outside of work, Michael Smoot embraced life with enthusiasm and curiosity; he loved the American West and dearly enjoyed snow skiing and fly fishing in Idaho and

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1 Wyoming; he was also a gourmet chef, expressing his love
2 through cooking and taking great pride in preparing memorable
3 meals for his family to create lasting traditions around the
4 table; and

5 WHEREAS, Michael Smoot was known as a fun and funny
6 presence, and people genuinely enjoyed spending time with him;
7 he possessed a keen intellect and approached all challenges
8 with strategic insight, and his enduring enthusiasm for
9 thoroughbred horse racing reflected his admiration for
10 discipline, high performance, and thoughtful analysis; and

11 WHEREAS, Above all, Michael Smoot was a devoted son,
12 brother, husband, father, and grandfather who leaves behind a
13 legacy of service, intellect, humor, and deep commitment to
14 his family; and

15 WHEREAS, Michael Smoot was preceded in death by his
16 father, Charles Smoot, and his parents, Juanita Smoot Corder
17 and Lawrence Corder; and

18 WHEREAS, Michael Smoot is survived by his wife of 60
19 years, Judy Smoot; his brother, Charles Smoot; his sons, Sean
20 Smoot and Chris Smoot; three grandchildren; and a host of
21 friends, colleagues, and former students; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Michael L. Smoot and extend our sincere condolences to his
4 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Michael Smoot as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.