



SR0718

LRB101 14596 ALS 63506 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Stanley M. Freehling of Highland Park, who passed away on September 20, 2019; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling was born in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago; he attended the University of Chicago and received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Stockholm; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling was a Senior Partner with Freehling and Company, a New York Stock Exchange firm, for decades; and

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling was devoted to the civic life of Chicago; he served as a Life Trustee of the University of Chicago and as a trustee of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, the John G. Shedd Aquarium, Lake Forest College, and the Chicago Public Library; he was instrumental in identifying and funding many works of public art in Chicago; and

13

14

15

16

17

18

WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling's greatest passion was for the arts; his long association with the Art Institute began in 1950, when he volunteered to serve as treasurer; he continued to serve on many boards and committees; more than 250 works in

19

20

21

1 the permanent collection are credited to him and his wife;
2 their connoisseurship and devotion to works on paper were
3 recognized by the Art Institute in 2008 with the exhibition
4 Collecting for Chicago: Prints, Drawings and Patronage; and

5 WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling raised millions of dollars for
6 many venerable institutions, including the Ravinia Festival,
7 the Arts Club of Chicago, and the Goodman Theatre; he served as
8 Chairman of Ravinia, President of the Arts Club, a Life Trustee
9 of the Art Institute of Chicago, and Chairman of the Sustaining
10 Fellows of the Art Institute; he served as a trustee of the
11 Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Hubbard Street Dance
12 Company; he served as the Chairman of the Illinois Arts Council
13 and as a member of the Chicago Theatre Group, the National
14 Corporate Theatre Fund, and Sadler's Wells Theatre Association
15 in London; and

16 WHEREAS, As the Founding Chairman of the Goodman Theatre,
17 Stanley Freehling launched a two million dollar campaign in the
18 1970s to make the Theatre a self-governed institution,
19 independent of the Art Institute; he started the first capital
20 fund drive at Ravinia to raise more than 2.2 million to rebuild
21 the Pavilion stage, enlarge the orchestra pit, and install a
22 new sound system; he also guided the establishment of the
23 park's collection of outdoor sculpture; Ravinia held a special
24 place in his heart, as it was where he met his future wife,

1 Joan Steif; and

2 WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling received many honors and
3 awards, including the Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Award, the
4 Harvard Club of Chicago Award, the Grant Park Symphony Special
5 Award, the Rosary College Bravo Award, the Sydney Yates Arts
6 Advocacy Award, the American Jewish Committee's Human Rights
7 Award, the Anti-Defamation League Distinguished Service Award,
8 the Friends of Literature Award, the first Governor's Award for
9 Outstanding Contribution to the Arts in Illinois, the
10 International Visitor's Center Gold Medallion Award, the
11 United States Marine Corps Distinguished Service Award, and the
12 Harold Washington History Maker Award for Distinction in Public
13 Service; in 1985, Ronald Reagan appointed him to the
14 President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities; he was the
15 recipient of the Joseph Jefferson Award for Life Achievement in
16 the Theatre and the Merit Music Program's Alice S. Pfaelzer
17 Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts; and

18 WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling was a member of many clubs,
19 including the Mid-Day Club and the Commercial Club; he was a
20 lifelong member of the Lake Shore Country Club; he was an avid
21 golfer and sports fan and loved the Chicago Bears and the
22 Chicago White Sox; he and Joan were active travelers and
23 visited every continent throughout their decades together; he
24 especially enjoyed a dry Beefeater martini, a good meal, and

1 the company of good friends; and

2 WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling was preceded in death by his
3 wife of 64 years, Joan, and his brothers, Julius and Herbert;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Stanley Freehling is survived by his daughters,
6 Maggie Freehling Phillips and Elizabeth (Debbie) Weidner; his
7 son, Robert Freehling; Dominique Parducci; his sons-in-law,
8 Joseph Weidner and Scott Phillips; his grandchildren, Benjamin
9 Weidner, Sam Phillips, Max Phillips, Rosalind Parducci, Daniel
10 Freehling; his great-grandchild, Noah Freehling; his
11 sister-in-law, Caryl Freehling; his nephews, Jim and Tom
12 Freehling; his niece, Julie Frodl; his caregivers, Verginia
13 Maeva and Maya Tonina; and his indispensable friend and
14 assistant, Karen Love; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
17 Stanley M. Freehling 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 Stanley Freehling as an expression
22 of our deepest sympathy.