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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 Joseph "Mike" LaMonica Sr. of Rockford, who passed away on December 26, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica was born in Chicago to Joseph and Louise (Canova) LaMonica on November 24, 1927; he graduated from Austin High School in Chicago in 1945 and served in the U.S. Navy from 1946 to 1947; he married Marguerite "Sally" Hess in Chicago on July 2, 1949; and

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WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica's career with Anheuser Busch began in the 1950s as a salesman in Chicago; he rose through the leadership and achieved the position of Vice President of Sales; in 1988, he founded his own local distributorship, LaMonica Beverages; under his leadership, the company quickly doubled in size and continued to grow throughout the years as a model successful family business; and

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WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica was a board member of the Variety Club of St. Louis since 1980, where he served as past president; he was also a board member of the National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame in Chicago since 1986 and the National Italian-American Foundation in Washington since 1987; he was on the board of directors of Rockford Memorial

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1 Hospital and Illinois Growth Enterprises for 10 years, where he  
2 served as president; and

3 WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica was named Man of the Year by City of  
4 Hope of St Louis in 1989; and

5 WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica was an avid golfer and past member  
6 of the Edgewater Golf Club in Chicago, the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See  
7 Country Club in Rockford, the Hazeltine Country Club in  
8 Minnesota, the Forest Hills Country Club in Missouri, and the  
9 Lakeside Country and Mission Hills Country Clubs in California;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica was preceded in death by his parents  
12 and his daughter, Maria Lynn LaMonica; and

13 WHEREAS, Mike LaMonica is survived by his wife of 70 years,  
14 Sally; his children, Mike (Kathy) LaMonica Jr., Marjie (Larry)  
15 LaMonica-Malizio, Mitch (Kim) LaMonica, and Rick (Jillian)  
16 LaMonica; his grandchildren, Carly, M.J. (Anna), Jessie  
17 (Ryan), Shawn (Lara), Todd (Kristi), Lacey, Lindsey, Lexi,  
18 Matthew, and Mason; and his great-grandchildren, Cole, Evan,  
19 Adelyn, Jack, and Claire; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 Michael Joseph "Mike" LaMonica Sr. of Rockford and extend our  
2 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
3 and loved him; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to the family of Mike LaMonica as an expression of  
6 our deepest sympathy.