



SR1602

LRB101 23425 ECR 74684 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 Raymond Lett of Plano, who passed away on January 5, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lett was born to Charles and Martha Lett in Sandwich on December 16, 1934; he married Sharon Ann Trail in Forest City, Iowa on August 20, 1956, and after 54 happy years together, she passed away on September 9, 2010; he married Roycana "Royce" Potter in Warrenton, Virginia on March 8, 2014, and after 4 happy years together, she passed away on December 5, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lett began his career as a county extension agent in Allamakee County in Iowa; he became the vocational agriculture high school teacher in McGregor, Iowa, where he taught for three years; he then returned to his family farm in Sandwich where he was a bi-vocational farmer and vocational agriculture high school teacher; in 1965, he became the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Services (ASCS) County Executive Director in Kendall County; he then served as Area Director and then as the State Director for ASCS in 1970;; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lett became Deputy Director of the

1 Illinois Department of Agriculture in 1974; during his tenure,
2 he led the first official delegation to the People's Republic
3 of China shortly after China opened its borders to the Western
4 World in 1978; he was selected to be the Executive Assistant to
5 the Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block in 1981 and served
6 for four years; during this time, he led a trade mission
7 between the United States and the Asian world, which included
8 the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia;
9 he directed the visit of President François Mitterrand of
10 France to the U.S. in 1985; he became Assistant Secretary for
11 Marketing and Inspection Services and then the Special
12 Assistant to the Secretary of Interior for International and
13 Trust Territories; he completed his career as a consultant to
14 the Oceanic Institute in Hawaii; and

15 WHEREAS, Ray Lett was Vice President of the International
16 Christian Fellowship over the National Prayer Breakfast
17 Ministries in Washington, D.C.; he and his wife Sharon were
18 lifelong Sunday school teachers; and

19 WHEREAS, Ray Lett was preceded in death by his parents; his
20 first wife, Sharon Ann Lett; and his second wife, Roycana
21 "Royce" Potter Lett; and

22 WHEREAS, Ray Lett is survived by his children, Ann
23 Grandquist, David (Karen) Lett, and Shelley (John) Raymond; and

1 his grandchildren, Josh and Zach Grandquist, Olivia, Charley
2 Ann, Sydney, and Christian Lett, and J.T. (Jacky), Jack
3 (Ashley), and Joey Raymond; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
6 Raymond Lett and extend our sincere condolences to his family,
7 friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Raymond Lett as an expression of our
10 deepest sympathy.