



SR1087

LRB102 28210 LAW 40020 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 Thomas J. "Tom" Costello of Urbana, who passed away on April 15, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Tom Costello was born to Tom and Dorothy Zobel Costello in Chicago on August 25, 1949; he attended St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; he earned his bachelor's degree at John Carroll University in Cleveland and his master's degree from Miami University of Ohio; he then attended the University of Illinois, where he worked toward a doctorate; he married Rosemary Lakatos on May 24, 1974; and

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WHEREAS, Tom Costello became a part-time bus driver for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District in May 1974; he eventually became the assistant managing director, becoming a friend, guide, and mentor to hundreds of employees over the 40 years he worked with the organization; and

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WHEREAS, Tom Costello was an avid volunteer in his adopted hometown; he served as a volunteer youth coach for soccer, basketball, and baseball; he frequently acted as a master of ceremonies or an auctioneer at community events; he served on the boards of many organizations, including the United Way, the Community Foundation of East Central Illinois, the

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1 Champaign Rotary, the Developmental Services Center, the
2 Illini Media Company, the C-U Schools Foundation, the Freedom
3 Celebration Committee, the Champaign County Clock and Bell
4 Tower Committee, and the Champaign County Design and
5 Conservation Foundation; he was a member of the University of
6 Illinois Faculty Senate; he also was an Urbana City Council
7 member and was the first chair of the Urbana Civilian Police
8 Review Board; and

9 WHEREAS, Tom Costello was a senior instructor in the
10 Department of Communication at the University of Illinois,
11 where he taught an introductory speaking course and courses in
12 leadership, business, and professional speaking; he started
13 teaching communication on a part-time basis in 1972 and was
14 regularly recognized for "Excellence in Undergraduate
15 Teaching"; and

16 WHEREAS, Tom Costello followed sports, especially his
17 former U of I students, some of whom became professional
18 athletes; he enjoyed Westerns, theater, especially Broadway
19 musicals, fishing, dining out, cooking massive amounts of food
20 for large crowds, and organizing events for two to 2,000; he
21 liked to travel and took his children to Europe several times;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Tom Costello loved his family, community,

1 students, co-workers, and neighbors; he used his energy,
2 talent, and experiences to help others; he was generous and
3 thoughtful and had an unfailing sense of humor; and

4 WHEREAS, Tom Costello was preceded in death by his son,
5 Patrick; and

6 WHEREAS, Tom Costello is survived by his wife, Rosemary;
7 his sons, Joseph (Kaitlin) and Jack (Laura); and his
8 grandchildren, Libby, Connor, Rory, and Cora; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Thomas J. "Tom" Costello and extend our sincere condolences to
12 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Tom Costello as an expression of our
16 deepest sympathy.