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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Paul R. Welch of Bloomington on Thursday, June 3, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was born on June 30, 1936 in Belleville to Robert H. and Grace Renner Welch; he married Cheryl A. Wombacher on August 25, 1979; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch attended Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri from 1954 to 1962, when he received his law degree; while at the university, honors and activities included the Law Review (Washington University Law Quarterly), Phi Delta Phi Fraternity, Sigma Nu Fraternity, Students for Better Government, and Scabbard and Blade Military Honor Society; he also participated in Illinois Continuing Legal Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was admitted to the bar to practice law in Illinois in 1965 and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court, State of Missouri in 1962, the U.S. Court of Military Appeals in 1962, the U.S. District Court in South Dakota in 1967, the U.S. District Court Central District in 1993, and the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch is the author of the July Selection in Criminal Cases in 1974 and was a lecturer from 1974 to 1976; he was an assistant professor at Illinois State University from 1977 to 1979; he also worked as a member of the staff and faculty for the Army Judge Advocate General's School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was a member of the American Bar Association, the Illinois Bar Association, the Missouri Bar Association, the McLean County Bar Association, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the Illinois Defense Counsel; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch served as the assistant city counselor
2 for the city of St. Louis, Missouri in 1962; from 1963 to 1965,
3 he was with the U.S. Army, JAGC, Serving on the Trial Counsel,
4 Chief of Military Justice, Military Law, and the 2nd Armored
5 Division; he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal in 1965;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch worked as an associated and partner for
8 Yoder, Yoder, and Luedtke in Bloomington from 1965 to 1968; he
9 was State's Attorney of McLean County from 1968 to 1976, during
10 which he prosecuted 5 homicide cases as well as numerous other
11 felony matters; he was the president and an attorney for
12 Costigan and Wollrab P.C. in Bloomington from 1967 until the
13 present; he worked in private practice with emphasis on trial
14 work, civil (personal injury defense), marital law, and
15 criminal defense; included in his cases were 4 homicide cases
16 among the approximately 125 cases he tried; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was a member of the Bloomington-Normal
18 Jaycees, receiving the Outstanding Citizen Award in 1969; he
19 was a past president of the McLean County Bar Association and a
20 member of the Illinois State's Attorney's Association, serving
21 as vice president, president elect in 1976, chairman of the
22 Legislative Liaison Committee, and as originator and
23 supervisor of the Model Circuit Attorney's Program; he was a
24 member of the United Nations Commission on crime and
25 Rehabilitation of Offenders, a past president and vice
26 president of the McLean County Board of Health, and a past
27 president and vice president of the McLean County Chamber of
28 Commerce; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was a member and board member of St.
30 John's Lutheran Church in Bloomington and a past president and
31 board member of the Bloomington Country Club; he was Hearing
32 Board chairman for the Illinois Attorneys Registration and

1 Disciplinary Commission; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch was campaign manager for U.S.
3 Representative Edward Madigan, who was appointed Secretary of
4 Agriculture by President George H. W. Bush in 1990; he was a
5 member of the National District Attorneys Association and the
6 Standards and Goals for Prosecutors Committee and was co-author
7 of Standards and Goals for Prosecutors; he was on the Home
8 Sweet Home Mission Board and was a past president of the McLean
9 County Economic Development Council; and

10 WHEREAS, The passing of Paul R. Welch has been deeply felt
11 by many, especially his wife, Cheryl; his mother, Grace; his
12 children, Reed Welch, Carrie Welch, Rob (Carrie) Welch, and
13 Margaret Welch; his brother, Dr. William (Barbara) Welch; his
14 sisters, Janet (William) Eckert and Linda Middaugh; and his
15 numerous nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the death of
18 Paul R. Welch, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
19 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Paul R. Welch as an expression of
23 our deepest sympathy.