



HR1479

LRB095 22136 KXB 52425 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Dr. William D. Towne, M.D., of Palos Park on July 27, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, He was born on August 29, 1939; after graduating from Mount Carmel High School he received a scholarship from U.S. Steel to attend Loyola University, where he later graduated from the Stritch School of Medicine; and

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WHEREAS, While a medical student visiting Hines V.A. Hospital, he met a nurse named Mary Tansey and they married in June of 1964; and

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WHEREAS, William and Mary had eight children: William, Patrick, James, Michael, Jerry, Brian, Danny, and Catherine; three of Dr. Towne's sons followed him into the medical profession; William is a cardiologist, Patrick is an internist, and James, who is currently in his fourth year of studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago's medical school; and

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WHEREAS, Having completed his residency at Cook County Hospital, Dr. Towne then pursued a cardiac fellowship that followed up on his fascination with the human heart; it was during a time when intensive care units were emerging, along

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1 with new technology for people with heart disease; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1973 Dr. Towne was named chairman of cardiology
3 at Cook County Hospital; he had the distinction of serving as
4 the youngest physician ever appointed to the post; he
5 concurrently served as associate chairman of medicine; he also
6 served as chief of the medical staff from 1979 until 1981; and

7 WHEREAS, He served as chief of cardiology at Columbus
8 Hospital from 1983 to 1993, clinical associate professor of
9 medicine at Loyola from 1975 to 1985, and served at
10 Northwestern from 1985 to 1993; and

11 WHEREAS, He was fondly referred to as a "doctor's doctor"
12 by his colleagues, who considered him to be among the best in
13 the medical profession; and he was deemed an expert in physical
14 diagnosis of heart conditions; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Towne's career also included serving in the
16 United States Navy, where he served as a lieutenant commander
17 and flight surgeon from 1966 to 1968; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. William Towne is survived by his wife, Mary;
19 his sons, William, Patrick, James, Michael, Jerry, Brian, and
20 Danny; and his daughter, Catherine Gergitis; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
3 mourn, along with his family, friends, and colleagues, the
4 passing of Dr. William Towne; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Dr. William Towne as a symbol of our
7 sincere sympathy.