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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 George A. "Bud" Berry III of St. Charles, who passed away on April 16, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Chicago to George A. Berry Jr. and Helen Royer Berry and raised in Hinsdale; he attended Philips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, and was a graduate of Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, where he was a letterman in football, hockey, and track; in September 1946, he married Jane Morton of Geneva, and they had two children, Robert F. Berry and George A. Berry IV; and

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WHEREAS, In June 1935, he began his career at American Terra Cotta Corporation, a company originally founded in 1881 as American Terra Cotta & Ceramic Co. by William Day Gates and bought and re-organized by his father, George A. Berry Jr., in 1935; he was a member of the United States Army from 1941-46, where he was involved in the D-Day Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge; he completed his service in England as an adjutant of the 433rd Fighter Control Squadron; after World War II, he returned to work at American Terra Cotta Corporation and continued his illustrious career at the company; and

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WHEREAS, He was instrumental in transforming the company

1 from the manufacturer of clay products, which discontinued in
2 1966, to an industry leader in commercial heat treating and
3 manufacturer of heat treated ground engaging tools for the
4 construction equipment industry; the worldwide company, known
5 today as TC Industries Inc., has facilities in Crystal Lake;
6 Guelph, Ontario, Canada; Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada; and
7 Skinningrove, U.K.; he retired as chairman in 1984, but
8 remained involved in the company's planning and real estate
9 activities until his passing; and

10 WHEREAS, He authored and published two books on the history
11 of the company, "*Common Clay: A History of American Terra Cotta*
12 *Corporation 1881-1966*," and "*Bars & Blades: A History of TC*
13 *Industries, Inc. 1881-2006*"; and

14 WHEREAS, He was president of the Architectural Terra Cotta
15 Institute from 1950-56, director of Structural Clay Products
16 Institute in Washington, D.C., through 1966, national
17 president of the Associated Alumni of Middlebury College in
18 1964, and served as trustee of the Geneva Community Hospital in
19 Geneva for 20 years; he was a member of the Geneva Golf Club
20 and The Chicago Club for 64 years, the Chicago Golf Club for 42
21 years, and a member of the Key Largo Anglers Club, the Card
22 Sound Golf Club, and the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, Florida,
23 where he has had a winter home for 40 years; during his time in
24 Florida, he pursued his favorite hobby of fishing for the "Big

1 Three": bonefish, tarpon, and permit; and

2 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents; and a
3 sister, Dorothy Gillespie; and

4 WHEREAS, He is survived by his wife; his sons; his
5 daughter-in-law, Margo; his two grandchildren, Sterling Morton
6 Berry and George A. Berry; and his sister, Helen von Dallwitz;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
10 his family and friends, the passing of George Berry; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of George Berry as a symbol of our
14 sincere sympathy.