



SR0035

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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 Guy Anthony Renzaglia, who passed away on November 4, 2010 at his home in Mahomet; and

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WHEREAS, Guy Renzaglia was a beloved father, grandfather, family member, friend, teacher, and colleague without comparison and a champion for those in need, with a legacy reaching across southern Illinois and to every corner of our great nation; and

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WHEREAS, Guy Renzaglia enlisted to serve his country during World War II and finished first in the Officer Candidate School in the Army Air Corps; he served with distinction during five years in uniform, and, like many of his peers in the Greatest Generation, he returned home and attended college on the GI Bill; and

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WHEREAS, Guy Renzaglia, the son of Italian immigrants, was an accomplished athlete and scholar and a member of the George Washington University Hall of Fame; he earned his bachelor's degree at GWU and his master's degree in physical education at the University of Minnesota; he subsequently earned his second master's degree in psychology and his doctorate in counseling psychology; and

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1 WHEREAS, Guy Renzaglia had a vision to provide support to
2 underserved persons; he applied his determination and wisdom to
3 develop the Rehabilitation Institute at Southern Illinois
4 University-Carbondale, making it one of the few universities in
5 the country at the time to provide services for the blind,
6 deaf, and persons using wheelchairs; and

7 WHEREAS, Through Guy Renzaglia's strength and charisma,
8 the Rehabilitation Institute became a nationally acclaimed
9 program which trained more than 1,000 professionals in
10 rehabilitation and mental health services; and

11 WHEREAS, Guy Renzaglia retired from SIU-C after 23 years of
12 service; at the age of 60, he started a partnership with two
13 friends, Ted Wichman and Skip Cosgrove, and began a vineyard
14 and winery later known as Alto Vineyards; and

15 WHEREAS, People from across the globe have come to southern
16 Illinois to sample the brilliant wines and warm hospitality of
17 Alto Vineyards, seeing and tasting for themselves the labor of
18 love which Guy Renzaglia passed along to his son, Paul
19 Renzaglia, as well as a love for life and people which is
20 evident in every delicious sip; and

21 WHEREAS, Alto Vineyards has served as the model for dozens

1 of other wineries and as the birthplace of the wine industry in
2 Illinois, which now boasts some 90 working wineries and
3 hundreds of acres of vineyards, and brings Illinois national
4 respect as a wine-producing region enjoyed by thousands of
5 visitors each year; and

6 WHEREAS, Our hearts are heavy with his loss, but we rejoice
7 in the time he shared in our lives; we are comforted by the
8 knowledge that Guy Renzaglia's heart will never leave the
9 fertile and beautiful rolling hills of southern Illinois, the
10 wonderful people of southern Illinois, and the SIU community;
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
14 his family, and friends, the passing of Guy Renzaglia; and be
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That we affirm that his spirit remains a living
17 part of us all and that his family and friends will love and
18 forever miss him; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Guy Renzaglia as a symbol of our
21 sincere sympathy.