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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 Leonard J. Rich of Bloomington, who passed away on February 5, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Rich was born on November 2, 1924, in Pontiac; his parents were Silas Henry and Esther Fern Leonard Rich; he married Mary Elizabeth Freed on June 22, 1947, in Gridley; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Rich graduated from Gridley High School in 1942; he subsequently attended Bradley University in Peoria, the University of Illinois in Urbana, and the University of Chicago before graduating from the University of Illinois-Chicago Dental School in 1950; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Rich served his country with pride and distinction as a dental officer in the United States Navy during the Korean War; and

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WHEREAS, Leonard Rich entered private practice in 1950 in Gridley, working there until his retirement in 1997; he also served as head of the dental department for the Department of Corrections for the State of Illinois for 30 years; and

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1           WHEREAS, Leonard Rich was a member of the First United  
2 Church of Gridley, the El Paso Lodge 246 AF & AM, the  
3 Bloomington Scottish Rite Bodies, the Gridley American Legion  
4 Post 218, and the McLean County Dental Society; he formerly  
5 served on the Centrillio Council of Girl Scouts as its  
6 fundraising chair; he was a former board member of Woodford  
7 County Bank and had served on the Board of Trustees of Eureka  
8 College; he was also a former member of the Bloomington Country  
9 Club and the Bob O'Link Golf Club at Highland Park; and

10           WHEREAS, Leonard Rich was well-known to his community and  
11 countless friends as "Doc Rich"; he had attained the rank of  
12 Eagle Scout and had served as the announcer for Gridley High  
13 School football games for 40 years, where he was known as Mr.  
14 Redskin; he was also an avid gardener and golfer; and

15           WHEREAS, Leonard Rich and his wife wintered in Perdido Key,  
16 Florida, for many years; and

17           WHEREAS, Leonard Rich was preceded in death by his parents;  
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19           WHEREAS, Leonard Rich is survived by his wife; his  
20 children, T.J. (Sherry) Rich, Ann Rich, and Randy "Rudy" Rich;  
21 his grandson, Craig Rich; his extended family; and the man he  
22 considered a son, Yoshiaki Ono, DDS, in Japan, who was inspired

1 to become a dentist by Doc Rich; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
4 his family and friends, the passing of Leonard J. Rich; and be  
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the family of Leonard Rich as an expression of our  
8 sympathy.