



SR0272

LRB097 12412 KXB 56891 r

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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 Richard A. Goodwin of Alton, who passed away on June 13, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, He attended Alton schools, graduating in 1964; he participated in school sports through his sophomore year; in high school, he played basketball for 2 seasons for the YMCA Flyers, making it to the Final Four in 1964; in 1967, he was injured while a passenger in an automobile accident in Alton; he was paralyzed from the chest down and became a wheelchair user; in 1969, he entered Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where he earned a BA in American studies and an MA in sociology; and

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WHEREAS, After graduation, he lived and worked in St. Louis for approximately 10 years; in 1985, he returned to Alton as the founding executive director of IMPACT, a disability rights and independent living organization; he was well-known as an expert on the history and philosophy of the disability rights and independent living movements, regularly providing training around the State; his writings were used to help train individuals from new disability right advocates to special education students and professionals; and

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1 WHEREAS, He served as executive director of IMPACT until
2 2004; he remained as an adviser for a short period; during his
3 life he received many awards of recognition, including the
4 Justin Dart Distinguished Citizen Award, Ed Roberts
5 Independent Living Award, The Magic Award, Spirit of
6 Independence Award, and the Alton YWCA Man of Distinction
7 Award; his most proud moment came when being distinguished as
8 the 2010 Alton Halloween Parade Grand Marshal; and

9 WHEREAS, In retirement, he enjoyed time with his wife and
10 extended family, renewing old friendships and attending Alton
11 High School varsity basketball games; he downloaded hundreds of
12 music videos, created music videos for the AHS class of 1964,
13 and became a video blogger on living with colon cancer; he was
14 generally ready on short notice for lunch or dinner out,
15 driving his ramp-equipped van around Alton and, at different
16 times, driving to Florida, Cape Cod, Pennsylvania, Ohio,
17 Tennessee, and other parts of the country; and

18 WHEREAS, On May 19, 1990, he married the former Jan Belt
19 Arnoldi at Main Street United Methodist Church; and

20 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents, George
21 and Ellen (Stone) Goodwin; and a sister, Viola Baehler; and

22 WHEREAS, Richard Goodwin is survived by his wife; his son,

1 Troy (Julie) Arnoldi; his grandchildren, Brandon and Brooke
2 Beckerdite and Addison and Reagan Arnoldi; his brothers, George
3 (Verma) and Ron (Barbara); his sister, Jo Ann Huntsman; he
4 leaves many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family,
5 and dear friends; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
8 his family and friends, the passing of Richard Goodwin; and be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Richard Goodwin as a symbol of our
12 sincere sympathy.