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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 Mary Kay O'Rourke; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Kay O'Rourke was born in 1967; she was the fourth of eight children growing up on the Northwest Side of Chicago; after attending St. Ferdinand's Elementary School and Mother Guerin High School, she earned her bachelor's degree from Northeastern Illinois University and her master's degree in education from Concordia University; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Kay O'Rourke began her career at St. Angela's School in Austin as a teacher in 1996; she steadily ascended the ranks at St. Angela's, serving as assistant principal until she was selected to serve as principal; as principal, she led a leadership team that rejuvenated St. Angela's from the verge of closing with a mere 150 students to a class of more than 430 in 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Kay O'Rourke was named an "Outstanding Educator" by United States Representative Danny Davis in July of 2011 in honor of her great community leadership; and

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WHEREAS, Mary Kay O'Rourke is survived by her mother, Mary Ann; her brothers and sisters, Jack, Kevin, Dan, Michael, and

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1 Patty Collins, and Dennis and Geralyn Lawler; and her 17 nieces  
2 and nephews; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
5 her family and friends, the passing of Mary Kay O'Rourke; and  
6 be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to the family of Mary Kay O'Rourke as an expression  
9 of our sympathy.