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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 Robert E. "Bob" Koeller, who passed away on February 11, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was born on September 26, 1924, in Alton; he was the son of Henry B. and Eva (Ruppaner) Koeller; he married Gracie E. Herrmann on August 28, 1948, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Koeller graduated from St. Mary's Grade School in Alton; he then attended Marquette High School for 3 years before graduating from Jerseyville Township High School; he also attended the University of Illinois and SIU Edwardsville; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was a partner in Koeller Bros. Farms in Godfrey; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was active throughout his life in promoting agricultural interests; he was a lifetime member of Madison County Farm Bureau and served as president before being elected to the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors, where he served for 8 years; he served as a member of the Madison County Farmland Review Committee for 20 years; he also served

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1 on the Board of Directors for Country Life Insurance, Godfrey
2 State Bank, and Wedge Bank of Alton and served as manager of
3 the Godfrey Township Utility Board for 10 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was instrumental in the creation of
5 the Farmland Assessment Law; he also served on Governor Jim
6 Thompson's State Tax Reform Commission as an agriculture
7 representative; and

8 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller served in numerous roles in the
9 Village of Godfrey's development; he helped guide the
10 incorporation of Godfrey into a village in 1993, served on the
11 village's Transition Committee, and served on several
12 development committees, including the Godfrey Community
13 Planning and Economic Development Committee; he also served on
14 the village's Sewer Board and was instrumental in bringing a
15 sewer plant to Godfrey in the 1970s; and

16 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was a charter member of St. Ambrose
17 Catholic Church in Godfrey; and

18 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller enjoyed farming, fishing, and
19 traveling with his wife; and

20 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller was preceded in death by his
21 brother and partner in business, Louis B. Koeller; his sister,

1 Mary Jane Koeller; and his son, Richard "Rick" L. Koeller; and

2 WHEREAS, Robert Koeller is survived by his wife of 63
3 years, Gracie; his children, Karen A. Zuckerman (Richard),
4 Robert H. Koeller, Connie T. Koeller, and Steven P. Koeller;
5 and his grandchildren, Jessica Koeller, Nicholas Koeller, and
6 Bradley Koeller; therefore, be it

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

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Robert Koeller as an expression of
13 our sympathy.