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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 Ralph Carman Hughes of East Moline, who passed away on December 18, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Ralph Hughes was born in Hagerstown, Indiana on October 19, 1927; in 1928, his family moved to Anderson, Indiana, where he graduated from high school; he received an honorable discharge from the United States Navy at the end of World War II and enrolled in the School of Agriculture at Purdue University; he married Charlotte Ann Bronnenberg in 1948; and

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WHEREAS, While at Purdue University, Ralph Hughes was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and the Alpha Zeta and the Ceres scholastic honorary fraternities; he received his Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education from Purdue in 1951 and was hired by the University Agricultural Experiment Station to edit publications written by the college professors; and

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WHEREAS, In 1954, Deere & Company hired Ralph Hughes as an assistant editor for the company farm magazine, The Furrow; in 1960, he became an agricultural advertising copywriter, creating sales literature, magazine ads, and motion picture

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1 scripts for a variety of John Deere farm equipment; in 1963, he
2 was entrusted with the challenge to introduce and promote the
3 new line of John Deere lawn and garden tractors and equipment;
4 in 1984, he was named the Worldwide Director of the Deere &
5 Company advertising department; under his leadership, the
6 advertising department coined the slogan "Nothing Runs Like A
7 Deere"; in 1992, he retired from Deere & Company; during his
8 career and after retirement, he authored three books and wrote
9 numerous magazine articles; and

10 WHEREAS, Ralph Hughes was active in his community; he
11 served as a Republican Precinct Committeeman for 10 years and
12 was on the East Moline Park Board for 21 years; and

13 WHEREAS, For over 30 years, Ralph Hughes researched his
14 family's genealogy; he enjoyed playing bridge with his wife and
15 friends, attending basketball games, taking bus tours, and
16 spending time with his family; and

17 WHEREAS, Ralph Hughes was preceded in death by his parents;
18 his brothers, George and Frank Hughes; and his son, R. Charles
19 "Chuck" Hughes; and

20 WHEREAS, Ralph Hughes is survived by his wife, Charlotte;
21 his daughters, Jane (Rick) Leggett Lampkin, and Cynthia (Larry)
22 Ziegler; his son, William Hughes; his daughter-in-law, Katie

1 Hughes; his grandchildren, Craig (Cara) Ziegler, Madeline
2 Hughes, and Ross Hughes; and two great-grandchildren;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
6 Ralph Carman Hughes, and extend our sincere condolences to his
7 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Ralph Hughes as an expression of our
11 deepest sympathy.