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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to express their sincere condolences to the family and friends of John Anton Drost of Arlington Heights, who recently passed away; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Drost was born April 9, 1909 in Brno, Czech Republic; he graduated from the Masaryk University Law Faculty in 1932 and served in the Czechoslovakian Army as a Lieutenant Judge in the Judge Advocate General's Department; he also served in the 1938 mobilization of the Czech Army; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Drost was a partner in the law firm of Dr. Alois Prazak, a member of the Czech government in exile in London; his legal work involved representing Jewish clients and their interests; this work caused him to be arrested and jailed, and when ordered to report to a labor camp in late 1944, he eluded Gestapo agents and went underground until the war was over; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Drost returned to his law practice after the war and was pursued by the Communists after the 1948 coup d'etat because of his involvement with Dr. Prazak and the firm's support of capitalist clients; again, Mr. Drost escaped, this time to Austria, and worked for the Church World Organization to help place refugees in Western countries; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Drost reunited with his wife, Doris Matela, whom he had married in 1940, and they immigrated to the United States; Mr. Drost worked as a church administrator at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Chicago, and at the urging of various church members, attended night classes at John Marshall Law School of Chicago and graduated in 1961; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Drost began a law partnership with Alan  
2 Schmidt and concentrated on estate law, including  
3 international probate law; he became the attorney for the  
4 Austrian Consulate General in Chicago and also did work for  
5 the German Consulate General in Chicago; in 1974, the  
6 Austrian government awarded Mr. Drost the Golden Badge of  
7 Honor; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Drost, in addition to his legal work, served  
9 on several boards, being most active with Uhlich Children's  
10 Home, where he served as president and was a Life Trustee;  
11 beginning in 1993, Mr. Drost participated and helped sponsor  
12 a continuing Legal Education Exchange Program with John  
13 Marshall Law School and Masaryk University; and

14           WHEREAS, Mr. Drost will be remembered by his family and  
15 friends, especially his wife, Doris; his sons, Rudy (Lynn)  
16 and George (Beth); his grandchildren, James (Robin) Drost,  
17 Carolyn (Robert) Burk, Julie (William) Drost-Hibler, Michael  
18 (Kaitrin) Drost and Charles Drost; and his four  
19 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
22 all those who knew him, the death of John Anton Drost of  
23 Arlington Heights; and be it further

24           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent  
25 to the family of John Anton Drost.