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LRB103 40422 LAW 72737 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Paul Stephen Colgan of Oak Park,
4 formerly of Wyoming, Illinois, who passed away on April 15,
5 2024; and

6 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan was born to Joseph Patrick and
7 Majella Catherine (Harty) Colgan in Kewanee on August 1, 1951;
8 he graduated from Wyoming Community High School in 1969; he
9 earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Government
10 from the University of Notre Dame, where he played tuba in the
11 marching band; he later earned a master's degree in Public
12 Affairs Reporting from the University of Illinois Springfield;
13 he married Phyllis Fairchild in Maui, Hawaii on July 7, 1988;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan had a 50-year career in public
16 affairs, first serving as a state government reporter in
17 Springfield; he wrote for the Chicago Daily News and then
18 covered political issues in Illinois and Missouri for the
19 Herald-Whig in Quincy; his expansive knowledge and keen
20 insight on public policy allowed for a successful transition
21 from reporter to the legislative staff of the Illinois General
22 Assembly, where he was instrumental in crafting extensive
23 legislation that served the people of Illinois; and

1 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan worked in professional staff roles on
2 dozens of political campaigns at the local and state levels,
3 ranging from Governor to Mayor of the City of Chicago; he
4 became a consultant and lobbyist, representing the interests
5 of clients in real estate, building code, technology, finance,
6 energy, and agriculture industries at the local, state, and
7 national levels; and

8 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan served as the government affairs
9 director for the Building Owners and Managers Association of
10 Chicago, representing the interests of business and commercial
11 consumers during the Illinois electric utility deregulation
12 legislative efforts in the 1990s; as a government affairs
13 consultant to the Home Builders Association of Greater
14 Chicago, he worked on rewriting the Chicago Energy
15 Conservation Code and served on the City of Chicago Building
16 Decarbonization Working Group; he also served as a government
17 affairs consultant for the Building Industry Association of
18 Greater Chicago, and he was active on various National
19 Association of Home Builders committees; and

20 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan founded EA Americas, LLC, a
21 consulting firm focusing on climate and environment, social,
22 and governance issues for those in real estate; he also
23 assisted with the formation of BONI USA, a technology startup

1 that provided navigation services to the visually impaired
2 community; most recently, he served as a senior strategist
3 with Strategia Consulting in Chicago and led the Clean Energy
4 Coalition, a group recently formed to protect all Illinoisans'
5 consumer rights and the environment; and

6 WHEREAS, A trusted mentor and generous advisor to others,
7 Paul Colgan was elected by his peers to serve as president of
8 the Chicago Area Public Affairs Group; he was also
9 community-minded from his long-term residency in Glen Ellyn
10 and Wheaton, where he served as a former chairperson of the
11 Arts Commission; and

12 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan was an unabashed supporter of the
13 University of Notre Dame and its football team; he enjoyed
14 sharing stories that usually featured his hearty and jovial
15 laugh, and he loved partaking in spirited debates; he was
16 quick to make friends and widely accepting of others from all
17 walks of life; and

18 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan was well-regarded professionally for
19 staying true to his word, his ability to reason and analyze
20 situations from multiple angles, and his wise counsel,
21 allowing the industries he served and the colleagues he worked
22 with to thrive; he will be remembered for being a fully
23 engaged, committed, and loving husband, father, and

1 grandfather who was always positive, supportive of any
2 endeavor, and immensely proud of his family; and

3 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan was preceded in death by his parents
4 and his brothers, Patrick J. Colgan and Dr. Philip L Colgan;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Paul Colgan is survived by his wife; his
7 daughter, Megan (Kyle) Wiggins; his granddaughters, Zoe Lauren
8 Wiggins and Rae Elizabeth Wiggins; his siblings, Judith
9 (Robert) Curran, Joanne (Gene) Gill, Timothy (Patty) Colgan,
10 Colleen Colgan, Jane (John) Francis, Susan (Ken) Knapp, Martin
11 (Sue) Colgan, Gregory Colgan, and Thomas (Gloria) Colgan; and
12 his many nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Paul Stephen Colgan and extend our sincere condolences to his
16 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Paul Colgan as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.