

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to express their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Melvin Eisenberg, who passed away on April 23, 2001; and

3

4

WHEREAS, Mr. Eisenberg was the founder and president of a Gurnee medical manufacturing company, a central figure in Chicago-area Jewish educational organizations, and a leader in promoting tuition-free Jewish education in the Chicago area; and

5

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, Mr. Eisenberg was a native of Chicago who graduated from Lane Tech High School in 1939; he went on to study mechanical engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology for two years before his education was interrupted by World War II; during the war, he taught gunnery to Army Air Forces recruits in Florida; he finished his bachelor's degree at the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1948; and

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

WHEREAS, Two years after finishing college, Mr. Eisenberg started Plasco Inc, a firm that made raincoats and dish covers before specializing in medical supplies in the late 1960s; and

18

19

20

21

WHEREAS, Mr. Eisenberg held more than 30 patents either personally or jointly; the patents included a CPR mask with a one-way valve to prevent cross-infection during resuscitation, tamper-evident seals for medical bags, and vacuum-activated splints for paramedics; and

22

23

24

25

26

WHEREAS, Melvin Eisenberg became involved with Jewish education issues through his children's schools; after moving to the Rogers Park area, he began volunteering within the school system and eventually became an advocate for Jewish education; he began to focus primarily on developing scholarship programs, such as a fund at the Ida Crown Jewish

27

28

29

30

31

1 Academy and financial help at Bar Ilan University in Israel
2 so students could receive a Jewish education during their
3 high school and college years; and

4 WHEREAS, Melvin Eisenberg served as president of
5 Associated Talmud Torah from 1986 through 1990 and served on
6 the Jewish United Fund board during the 1990s; in addition he
7 served as past chairman of the board of governors at the Ida
8 Crown Jewish Academy and as director of Toward Tradition and
9 the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan
10 Chicago; and

11 WHEREAS, The passing of Melvin Eisenberg will be deeply
12 felt by all who knew and loved him, especially his wife,
13 Marilyn; his children, David, Keren, Ronna, and Solomon; his
14 stepchildren, Elliot and David Allswang and Shari Feifel; his
15 brother Sheppard Eisenberg; his sisters, Charlene Blumenthal
16 and Bailee Mendelson; his ten grandchildren; and his ten
17 step-grandchildren; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
20 all who knew him, the death of Melvin Eisenberg of Chicago,
21 Illinois; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
23 presented to the family of Melvin Eisenberg with our sincere
24 condolences.