



General Assembly

**House Joint
Resolution No. 119**

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 5591

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Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. DONOVAN, 84th Dist.
REP. MERRILL, 54th Dist.
SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.
SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.
REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF IRVING
J. STOLBERG.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, on Friday, February 13, 2009, the state of Connecticut
2 lost a great statesman with the passing of former Speaker of the House
3 of Representatives Irving J. Stolberg; and

4 WHEREAS, he was a professor of geography at both Southern
5 Connecticut State University and Quinnipiac University and a fellow
6 at Yale's Calhoun College; and

7 WHEREAS, he served as a member of the House of Representatives
8 for the 112th district from 1971 to 1973 and the 93rd district from 1973
9 to 1993, proudly representing the city of New Haven for twenty-two
10 years; and

11 WHEREAS, during his years of service in the General Assembly, he
12 served as House chairman for the Committees on Human Services,
13 Legislative Management and Finance, Revenue and Bonding; and

14 WHEREAS, he served as Speaker of the House of Representatives
15 for four years and served as House Minority Leader for two years; and

16 WHEREAS, he led the initiative that brought more progressive tax
17 policies to the state of Connecticut; and

18 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in establishing the Legislative
19 Office Building in Hartford and in restoring the State Capitol Building
20 to its original grandeur; and

21 WHEREAS, he served as president of the National Conference of
22 State Legislatures and later served as President of the Foundation for
23 State Legislatures; and

24 WHEREAS, he was a longtime member of the Democratic National
25 Committee and served as a delegate to six Democratic National
26 Conventions; and

27 WHEREAS, he was a true global citizen, having worked in more
28 than ninety countries throughout the world; and

29 WHEREAS, he was an Africanist who conducted research in
30 Tanzania, Ethiopia and Nigeria and led delegations to Ghana, Kenya
31 and South Africa; and

32 WHEREAS, he was appointed by President William J. Clinton and
33 reappointed by President George W. Bush to the Commission on the
34 Preservation of American Culture Abroad and while serving on the
35 commission had the lead responsibility for relations with Slovakia,
36 Ukraine and Moldova; and

37 WHEREAS, he was a devoted internationalist who sought to build
38 democracy around the world and to strengthen instruments for

39 peaceful resolution of conflicts among human beings; and

40 WHEREAS, he served as President of the Connecticut Division of
41 the United Nations Association (UNA), was elected to the UNA
42 national Board of Directors, was elected to represent the United States
43 on the Executive Committee of the World Federation of United
44 Nations Associations and was proud to help produce the widely-
45 distributed UNA Calendar for Peace; and

46 WHEREAS, he visited China more than twenty times, lectured at
47 several Chinese universities and institutions and helped develop
48 training programs at American universities for more than seven
49 hundred Chinese provincial officials, earning the Qilu Friendship
50 Award and Medal from the government of Shandong Province; and

51 WHEREAS, he helped facilitate the democratization process in
52 Eastern Europe; and

53 WHEREAS, he played a part in drafting the Constitution of Brazil;
54 and

55 WHEREAS, he is survived by his son Robert, his brother Roger, his
56 former wife Alicia Barela, his sister Melody Gentry and his brother
57 Frank Alpert and he was predeceased by his brother Ronald; and

58 WHEREAS, he will always be remembered for his lasting
59 contributions to the state of Connecticut and his service to people
60 throughout the world; and

61 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut
62 General Assembly expresses its sincere sympathy and heartfelt
63 condolences on the passing of one of its most influential and respected
64 former members of the House of Representatives, Irving J. Stolberg,
65 whose death is a profound loss to the General Assembly, his family
66 and friends, the residents of the city of New Haven and the people of
67 the state of Connecticut; and

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of
69 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution to be
70 presented to the family of Irving J. Stolberg as an expression of the
71 high esteem in which he was held.