



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Larry McGrogan was born in Ottawa, Illinois and  
3 has lived there his entire life; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. McGrogan has owned and operated Handy Foods  
5 and the Save-a-Lot stores in Ottawa, Streator, and LaSalle for  
6 more than 40 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. McGrogan opened his first retail grocery  
8 store, The Dairy Village, in June of 1963 as an outlet for  
9 selling Dean Milk products, and Mr. McGrogan and his wife,  
10 Bonnie, also opened Handy Foods in 1964; and

11 WHEREAS, Larry and Bonnie McGrogan operated both The Dairy  
12 Village and Handy Foods until they sold The Dairy Village in  
13 1971; and

14 WHEREAS, Handy Foods became an Independent Grocer's  
15 Association (IGA) franchise in 1990 and currently employs  
16 approximately 120 people; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. McGrogan has maintained the integrity of the  
18 business while continuing to add services and make  
19 improvements; and

20 WHEREAS, under Mr. McGrogan's direction, Handy Foods IGA  
21 has demonstrated its dedication to community service by  
22 regularly contributing to the local food pantry, providing  
23 disaster assistance to tornado victims, and implementing a  
24 charitable rebate program that has given back more than  
25 \$700,000 to the community; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. McGrogan is also active in many community  
27 organizations, including the Ottatwa Area Chamber of Commerce,  
28 the Salvation Army, the YMCA, and the United Way and has

1 received numerous distinguished community awards, including  
2 Outstanding Citizen of the Year from the Ottawa Elks; and

3 WHEREAS, on February 12, at the IGA's global summit, Mr.  
4 McGrogran was recognized by the IGA as one of 6 retailers  
5 worldwide whose "hometown proud" spirit and leadership merit  
6 being named as a 2006 International Retailer of the Year, an  
7 award that is given to retailers who demonstrate leadership in  
8 their communities and throughout the IGA system; therefore, be  
9 it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we congratulate Larry McGrogran on being named as an IGA 2006  
13 International Retailer of the Year and recognize his many  
14 contributions to the community of Ottawa; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 presented to Larry McGrogran as an expression of our respect and  
17 esteem.