



HR0511

LRB098 12702 MST 47153 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of William
4 L. Harris of Marion, who passed away on July 1, 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, William Harris was born on August 30, 1923, in
6 Marion to Oscar R. and Estelle (Murphy) Harris; he married Anna
7 L. Simpson on September 19, 1941, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri;
8 he attended Marion schools and graduated from the University of
9 Chicago, management administrative school, in 1956; and

10 WHEREAS, William Harris worked as an auditor for the United
11 States Civil Service Property and Materials Division at the
12 Illinois Ordnance Plant in Marion, as a regional sales manager
13 for Swift and Company, and in the sales and marketing
14 department of the Du Quoin Packing Company; he also worked as
15 an instructor in junior colleges for sales and marketing and as
16 a licensed real estate broker; and

17 WHEREAS, From 1963 to 1967, William Harris served on the
18 Marion City Council and helped established the first State and
19 federally approved landfill in the area; he served as the
20 Williamson County Democratic Chairman and as the Public
21 Administrator for Williamson County; he held several political
22 positions, including Democratic Party Vice-Chairman in the

1 24th Congressional District, Senatorial Representative
2 Chairman in the 59th Legislative District, precinct
3 committeeman in Marion, and Vice-Chairman of the State
4 Democratic Chairmen's Association; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1973, William Harris was appointed to the
6 newly-created State Board of Elections; he served as its
7 Vice-Chairman until being appointed to the Illinois House of
8 Representatives for the 59th District in 1977; and

9 WHEREAS, William Harris was a member of the First
10 Presbyterian Church of Marion, the Marion Masonic Lodge 89
11 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the National Rifle
12 Association, and lifetime member of the State Jaycees and the
13 Illinois Police Association; and

14 WHEREAS, William Harris was preceded in death by his
15 parents; and

16 WHEREAS, William Harris is survived by his wife of 71
17 years, Anna; his son, William Michael Harris and wife, Julie
18 Ann; his granddaughters, Stephanie Ann Bean, Melissa D. Harris,
19 and Monika L. Bean; and his great-grandchildren, J.W. Harris
20 and Ella M. Bean; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we mourn the passing of William L. Harris, and extend our
3 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
4 and loved him; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of William Harris as an expression of
7 our deepest sympathy.