



HR0584

LRB099 12747 GRL 36542 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Paul Penn, who passed away on May 7, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Paul Penn was born on April 2, 1925; he was a true community leader for working people and a generous soul who gave much to all of McLean County; and

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WHEREAS, Paul Penn was first elected business manager of Laborers Local 362 in 1958; he continued to serve and guide the local union for the rest of his life; from this position, he was instrumental in guiding the Laborers to achieve better conditions and establish a union hiring hall, a pension plan, a health and welfare plan, and training programs; and

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WHEREAS, Paul Penn served his country during World War II, serving with the United States Army's famed "Red Ball Express" in the European Theater, landing in France just a few days after D-Day; and

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WHEREAS, Paul Penn believed in giving back to the community; he organized Laborers, other union crafts, and union contractors to share their skills through donated labor to enhance McLean County's human services and public monuments;

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1 through these donated labor efforts, he helped complete the
2 ball fields at O'Neil Park in Bloomington, the Chicago & Alton
3 Railroad monument in Miller Park, the World War II Monument at
4 McLean County's Old Courthouse, the Baby Fold renovation at the
5 old Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in Normal, the Women in The
6 Trades program at the Easter Seals Camp, and numerous other
7 varied projects to aid social service and community agencies;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Paul Penn used his position as Laborers' business
10 manager to create job opportunities and openings for McLean
11 County workers, regardless of background, race, color, creed,
12 or gender; and

13 WHEREAS, Paul Penn left a legacy of community service,
14 responsible union leadership, and concern for all; therefore,
15 be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we, along with his family and friends, mourn the passing of
19 Paul Penn; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Paul Penn as an expression of our
22 sympathy.