

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Sheriff Roy
3 Dean Bradford is retiring on November 30, 2002 as Sheriff of
4 Jefferson County; and

5 WHEREAS, Sheriff Bradford began his law enforcement
6 career in 1974 at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; in
7 1976 he was promoted to Captain and in 1977 he was promoted
8 to Chief Deputy; in 1993 he was appointed Jefferson County
9 Sheriff; in 1994 he was elected Jefferson County Sheriff with
10 74% of the vote; in 1998 he was re-elected with 84% of the
11 vote; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1997 Sheriff Bradford received the Governor's
13 Award of Excellence in Law Enforcement Training; in 1998 he
14 was elected to the Illinois Sheriffs' Association Executive
15 Board, he then became Second Vice-President and First
16 Vice-President and in 2002 was elected President of the
17 Illinois Sheriffs' Association; in 1984 he became a Certified
18 Arson Investigator; he has received numerous other awards and
19 attended other advanced training courses; and

20 WHEREAS, As Chief Deputy in the early 1980s, he was
21 investigating an escape from the Jefferson County Jail;
22 having a photographic memory, he recalled an earlier
23 conversation with the escapee in which the escapee had said
24 he had a good heart and would always stop to help a disabled
25 motorist; Roy Dean then sat out on the Interstate in his
26 personal car with his hood up, posing as a stranded motorist;
27 in less than an hour, the escapee pulled up behind Roy Dean
28 in a stolen car and offered assistance; Roy Dean politely
29 placed the escapee under arrest and transported him back to
30 jail; and

31 WHEREAS, As Chief Deputy in the mid 1980s, he was
32 traveling in his personal car with his wife Glenda on Route

1 148 south of Mt. Vernon in the evening hours; when they
2 arrived in the area of McClellan School, Chief Deputy
3 Bradford, scanning the area with his eagle-like vision,
4 spotted a notorious thief in the night; realizing that he was
5 not armed, he asked his wife Glenda to provide him with a
6 weapon; he grabbed the item supplied to him, exited his car
7 and gave chase to what appeared to be two desperados; after
8 cornering the bandits and announcing who he was, he initiated
9 his cat-like reflexes and held the dangerous duo at bay; he
10 secured the would-be thieves until Deputies could arrive to
11 take them into custody; it was later discovered that the two
12 individuals had indeed attempted a break-in at McClellan
13 School and Chief Deputy Bradford had successfully thwarted
14 their attempt; Roy Dean also discovered that he had held the
15 two at bay with an umbrella; and

16 WHEREAS, Sheriff Bradford has a wide grin and is a very
17 personable man who doesn't know a stranger; his retirement
18 will enable him to spend more time with his family, including
19 his wife of 38 years, Glenda; his three daughters, Marcia,
20 Carol, and Julie; and his five granddaughters, Alyssa,
21 Rachel, Emily, Hannah, and Ava; he will also have more time
22 to devote to his hobby of woodworking; therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
24 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,
25 that, along with all those who know him, we honor Sheriff Roy
26 Dean Bradford on his retirement as Sheriff of Jefferson
27 County; we give him our heartfelt thanks for his long career
28 of dedicated and distinguished service to law enforcement;
29 and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors; and be
30 it further

31 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
32 presented to Sheriff Roy Dean Bradford as an expression of
33 our respect and esteem.