



HR0274

LRB104 13193 LAW 25339 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate John Patrick Collins on
4 the occasion of his 90th birthday on May 7, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, John Collins, the son of John Austin Collins and
6 Alice Ann Connon Collins, was born in Chicago on May 7, 1935;
7 he was baptized at St. Mel Catholic Church in Chicago on June
8 23, 1935; he graduated eighth grade from St. Mel/Holy Ghost
9 Catholic School in 1949, where he served as an altar boy and a
10 patrol boy; he attended Archbishop Quigley Prep Seminary High
11 School in Chicago from 1949 to 1951; he graduated from St. Mel
12 Christian Brothers High School in Chicago in 1953, during
13 which he worked as a part-time copy boy for the Chicago
14 Sun-Times from 1951 to 1953; and

15 WHEREAS, John Collins attended Christian Brothers College
16 in Memphis, Tennessee in 1953, where he majored in history,
17 before being drafted into the U.S. Army; he served in the U.S.
18 Army from 1954 to 1956, where he was stationed in Germany and
19 Austria during the German Occupation post-World War II; after
20 completing his military service, he attended DePaul University
21 in Chicago on the GI Bill from 1957 to 1959, majoring in
22 history and serving as a member of the Vet's Club; and

1 WHEREAS, John Collins married Kathleen M. O'Donovan at St.
2 Giles Catholic Church in Oak Park on September 30, 1961, and
3 they had three children; they celebrated their 25th wedding
4 anniversary in Hawaii in 1986 and their 60th wedding
5 anniversary with a mass at Saint Paul of the Cross Church in
6 Park Ridge and a blessing from the Pope on September 30, 2021;
7 last year, they celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary,
8 having built a life, family, and home in their time together;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, John Collins was hired by the Chicago Police
11 Department (CPD) in March 1959, initially being assigned to
12 the Filmore District before being reassigned as a detective to
13 the Crime Lab detail of the CPD, a position he held from March
14 1959 to 1968; he was promoted to sergeant in July 1968, being
15 assigned to the Albany Park Station, 17th District; he was
16 promoted to lieutenant in July 1971, being assigned to the
17 Filmore District; he was then assigned to the Mass Transit
18 Unit in 1973; he was promoted to captain in July 1976,
19 initially being assigned to the 12th District for three months
20 before being reassigned as watch commander of the 20th
21 District in November 1976; he was assigned as acting commander
22 of the 20th District in 1978; he was appointed district
23 commander of the then-new 24th District in March 1979; he was
24 assigned as a watch commander of the Albany Park Station, 17th
25 District, in April 1981, and he then served in that same

1 position at the Grand and Central Station, 25th District, in
2 1986; he served as watch commander of the 18th District from
3 1992 to 1994; he retired from the Chicago Police Department
4 after 35 years in November 1994; he was called out of
5 retirement to help solve a 1968 cold case by testifying in
6 2024; and

7 WHEREAS, John Collins is the husband of Kathleen Collins;
8 the father of Colleen, Michael, and John; the grandfather of
9 five; the grandfather-in-law of two; the brother of James
10 Collins and Joanne (Thomas) Collins Ginley; the brother-in-law
11 of Daniel, Patricia, Maureen, and Colleen O'Donovan; the uncle
12 of many; a godfather; a cousin; and a friend; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we congratulate John P. Collins on celebrating his 90th
16 birthday on May 7, 2025, and we wish him many more happy years;
17 and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to John Collins as an expression of our esteem and
20 respect.