



HR0318

LRB104 13527 ECR 25997 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Gaye and Susan Michael on
4 their longtime, successful operation of Michael's Restaurant
5 in Highland; and

6 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael, the third generation
7 owners and operators of Michael's Restaurant, have been
8 happily married for 52 years; Gaye, the son of Robert "Guy" and
9 Joann Michael, was born on December 23, 1952, and Susan, the
10 daughter of Edward and Josephine Kohlbrecher, was born on
11 April 16, 1952; they wed on November 24, 1972, and they are the
12 parents of Natalie (Jason) Martini, Susanne (Jeff) Himsel, and
13 David (Laura) Michael and the grandparents of Sophia, Ella,
14 Lillian, Vivian, Bennett, Josephine, Peter, and Paul; and

15 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael, through Michael's
16 Restaurant, have become part of an 84-year legacy of the
17 Michael family serving delicious food and drinks to patrons
18 near and far; the family's first business was Michael's
19 Recreation, which was founded by Gaye's grandparents, William
20 and Vera Michael, in 1941; they opened a second location,
21 Broadway Recreation, in 1952, operating both businesses until
22 Michael's Recreation was destroyed by a fire in 1953; they
23 stayed at their second location until they moved their

1 business to the current location of Michael's Restaurant at
2 415 Broadway in 1956; and

3 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael eventually became official
4 partners with Gaye's parents in the family business, with Gaye
5 having worked there for over 65 years and Susan for over 40
6 years; under their leadership, Michael's Restaurant has
7 continued to thrive as they grow and renovate the business
8 through a number of changes, including adding an expanded
9 lounge area, an extensive banquet space, and an outdoor gazebo
10 and grill; and

11 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael, as the owners and
12 operators of Michael's Restaurant, have left an indelible mark
13 on the Highland community through their employment of hundreds
14 of men and women from all walks of life; their staff members
15 have become part of the Michael family, with Gaye and Susan
16 often helping employees pursue professional careers in
17 business, education, politics, and many other fields; today,
18 they employ the children and grandchildren of many of their
19 former employees, leading to the continued growth of the
20 extended Michael's Restaurant family; and

21 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael, through Michael's
22 Restaurant, have generously donated to and hosted fundraising
23 events for countless nonprofit and charity organizations over

1 the years; their annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon and auction
2 is well-known, with its fundraising efforts supporting local
3 youth sports organizations, including Highland's American
4 Legion Baseball organization and the Highland Quarterback
5 Club; in total, the Michael family has raised over half a
6 million dollars over the 54-year history of their St.
7 Patrick's Day event; over the generations, the family has also
8 given funds towards supporting Highland's local schools,
9 especially their athletic programs; and

10 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael have been and remain
11 dedicated citizens of the Highland community through their
12 involvement in several local organizations, including the
13 Highland Rotary Club, the Highland Chamber of Commerce,
14 Knights of Columbus, and the Highland Moose Lodge, and they
15 are devoted to their faith and lifelong members of St. Paul
16 Parish in Highland; and

17 WHEREAS, Gaye and Susan Michael have operated Michael's
18 Restaurant with the greatest of integrity and utmost respect
19 over the decades, and their establishment continues to be the
20 place for patrons to celebrate life's milestones; their love
21 for their family, their employees, and their devoted customers
22 has caused their business to flourish, and Michael's
23 Restaurant has been a point of pride for Highland for over
24 three-quarters of a century; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate Gaye and Susan Michael on successfully owning
4 and operating Michael's Restaurant in Highland; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
7 presented to Gaye and Susan Michael as an expression of our
8 esteem and respect.