



HR0476

LRB104 15484 LAW 28644 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Kaskaskia College on the  
4 occasion of achieving 85 years as an educational institution;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College was established as Centralia  
7 Township Junior College in 1940, and it holds the distinction  
8 of being the first community college founded in the State of  
9 Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1965, the Illinois General Assembly enacted  
11 the Illinois Community College Act, which provided for the  
12 formal creation and recognition of community college districts  
13 across the State to ensure greater access to affordable higher  
14 education and workforce training opportunities; and

15 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College was the very first institution  
16 officially recognized under the Illinois Community College Act  
17 of 1965, becoming Community College District 501 and serving  
18 as a model for what would become the statewide system of  
19 community colleges in Illinois; and

20 WHEREAS, Over the past 85 years, Kaskaskia College has  
21 grown substantially and now serves thousands of students

1 annually across a multicounty district that includes Clinton,  
2 Marion, Washington, Bond, Fayette, and portions of surrounding  
3 counties in Southern Illinois; and

4 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has consistently demonstrated a  
5 strong commitment to academic excellence, workforce  
6 development, and community service by offering diverse  
7 educational programs, technical training, and cultural  
8 enrichment activities to meet the needs of students,  
9 employers, and the region as a whole; and

10 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College, as the premier provider of  
11 workforce education and training in Southern Illinois, has  
12 partnered with local industries and economic development  
13 organizations to build a strong, skilled workforce that  
14 contributes to the growth and vitality of the region; and

15 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has provided generations of  
16 families with opportunities, empowering students to achieve  
17 their educational goals, build successful careers, and become  
18 active participants in their communities; and

19 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has been recognized by State  
20 Representative Charles Meier, whose home district is proudly  
21 served by the institution, for the tremendous impact the  
22 college has had on his constituents and the entire Southern

1 Illinois region; and

2 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College is currently led by President  
3 George Evans, the institution's 11th president, providing  
4 visionary leadership and upholding the college's mission of  
5 service, innovation, and excellence; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
7 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8 we congratulate Kaskaskia College on its 85th anniversary, and  
9 we commend its historic role as Illinois' first recognized  
10 community college under the Illinois Community College Act of  
11 1965; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we commend the leadership of Kaskaskia  
13 College President George Evans, the board of trustees, the  
14 faculty, the staff, and the administration for their  
15 dedication to providing high-quality education and workforce  
16 training, positively impacting the lives of countless  
17 students, alumni, and families; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
19 presented to Kaskaskia College President George Evans, the  
20 board of trustees, and the faculty and staff as a symbol of our  
21 esteem and gratitude.