



HR0536

LRB104 16087 LAW 29376 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to commend The Rockford Anthology for its  
4 encapsulation of the City of Rockford, the voices of its  
5 people, and its histories; and

6 WHEREAS, The City of Rockford, belonging to the 67th  
7 District under the leadership of State Representative Maurice  
8 A. West II, stands as a proud symbol of resilience,  
9 innovation, and community strength within the State of  
10 Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, The Rockford Anthology, edited by Rachel León and  
12 produced by Arcadia Publishing under its imprint Belt  
13 Publishing in October 2025, celebrates the authentic voices,  
14 histories, and experiences that define Rockford's people and  
15 neighborhoods; and

16 WHEREAS, The Rockford Anthology brings together essays,  
17 poetry, and reflections from residents, artists, and leaders  
18 whose stories explore Rockford's industrial legacy, its  
19 cultural transformation, and its ongoing pursuit of equity and  
20 opportunity for all; and

21 WHEREAS, By uplifting stories from a diverse range of

1 contributors, including lifelong residents, immigrants,  
2 returning citizens, and emerging youth leaders, The Rockford  
3 Anthology offers a portrait of a community that continues to  
4 rebuild, reimagine, and inspire; and

5 WHEREAS, The Rockford Anthology underscores the shared  
6 belief that storytelling is a form of civic engagement, one  
7 that deepens public understanding, promotes unity, and  
8 strengthens Rockford's cultural identity; and

9 WHEREAS, It is fitting that the Illinois House of  
10 Representatives highlight the importance of literature and the  
11 arts as catalysts for civic dialogue, education, and community  
12 pride, particularly in communities such as Rockford that  
13 exemplify collaboration and resilience; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16 we commend The Rockford Anthology for its outstanding  
17 contribution to Illinois literature and for capturing the  
18 enduring spirit of the Rockford community; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we commend Editor Rachel León and all  
20 contributing authors for their dedication to telling  
21 Rockford's story with honesty, compassion, and hope, and we  
22 wish them continued success in advancing community

1     storytelling throughout Illinois; and be it further

2             RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
3     presented to Editor Rachel León and Belt Publishing as an  
4     expression of our esteem and respect.