



HR0690

LRB104 20574 RMO 34058 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Fox River Valley  
4 Public Library District on the occasion of its 150th  
5 anniversary, marking a century and a half of service to the  
6 communities of northeastern Kane County; and

7           WHEREAS, The Fox River Valley Public Library District  
8 maintains its main library in East Dundee as well as a branch  
9 in West Dundee; it serves approximately 71,500 residents  
10 across East Dundee, West Dundee, Carpentersville, Sleepy  
11 Hollow, and Gilberts, as well as portions of Algonquin,  
12 Barrington Hills, and Elgin; by population served, it is the  
13 seventh-largest library district in Illinois; and

14           WHEREAS, Library service in the Fox River Valley began  
15 long before the modern district existed and has roots in two  
16 early subscription libraries, the Carpentersville Library and  
17 the original Dundee Library; in the 1850s, members of the Sons  
18 of Temperance gathered a small collection of books in  
19 Carpentersville's Library Hall, a building shared with the  
20 local school district; in 1871, the newly-formed  
21 Carpentersville Literary and Library Association expanded this  
22 collection and began operating with the help of volunteer  
23 librarians; that same year, residents formally declared their

1 intent to organize a literary society under Illinois law; and

2 WHEREAS, The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 destroyed  
3 libraries across the city, prompting an international book  
4 donation effort and inspiring the 1872 passage of the Illinois  
5 Library Act; in 1876, Carpentersville established one of the  
6 first tax-supported libraries in Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1876, the Dundee Library was established  
8 through the efforts of Dr. E. F. Cleveland and Fred Haverkamp,  
9 who believed strongly in expanding educational and cultural  
10 opportunities for the community and whose work helped create a  
11 space for learning and engagement beyond the social norms of  
12 the time; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1959, the Dundee Library and the  
14 Carpentersville Literary and Library Association merged to  
15 form the Dundee Township Library, with a main location in  
16 Carpentersville and a branch in West Dundee; this merger laid  
17 the groundwork for what would become the Fox River Valley  
18 Public Library District, a system built on collaboration,  
19 community support, and a shared belief in the power of access  
20 to information; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
22 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we congratulate the Fox River Valley Public Library District  
2 on 150 years of serving the community as a welcoming place for  
3 learning, connection, and discovery; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to the Fox River Valley Public Library District as  
6 an expression of our esteem and respect.