



HR0888

LRB104 21833 ECR 37616 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Betty Lindquist on the
4 occasion of her retirement in the field of special education
5 after decades of service; and

6 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist began her special education
7 career while working for the Lake County Juvenile Probation
8 Department in the mid-1970s; and

9 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist formed Counseling Connections in
10 1982 to focus on providing mental health services for children
11 and adolescents as well as children in the juvenile court
12 system, and she wrote a program to help families going through
13 divorce with difficult child custody issues; her practice
14 started with two therapists and one special education
15 advocate, and it has grown into one of the largest private
16 mental health practices for children and adolescents in Lake
17 County; and

18 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist established the first of five
19 nonpublic therapeutic special education day schools in
20 Waukegan in 1998 to support children with mental health issues
21 in pursuing their education in the least restrictive
22 environment possible, and her schools have expanded geographic

1 access to services for special education students in Lake,
2 McHenry, DuPage, and Cook counties; in addition, she created
3 two programs specializing in students with autism and started
4 the first virtual school in Illinois for students with school
5 refusal; since their creation, her schools have helped
6 thousands of special education students successfully return to
7 their home school setting or graduate within a therapeutic day
8 school; and

9 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist also joined the Illinois
10 Association of Private Special Education Centers (IAPSEC) in
11 1998, where she became chair of Membership, served as chair of
12 the Legislative Committee from 2019 to 2026, and was active in
13 all facets of IAPSEC; and

14 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist worked tirelessly to increase
15 IAPSEC membership, actively met with legislators throughout
16 the State on behalf of the most severely disabled special
17 education students, and worked consistently on funding, Part
18 401 Rules, restraint and time-out, and committee testimony;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist's passion has always been to help
21 children with mental health issues; in the process, she has
22 guided and supported countless special education directors and
23 administrators in both public and nonpublic programs, becoming

1 a relentless advocate for students, families, and equity
2 throughout her career; and

3 WHEREAS, Betty Lindquist is the wife of the late Stephen
4 Katz, the mother of two daughters, and a grandmother of five;
5 outside of work duties, she is an avid golfer and gardener who
6 enjoys splitting her time between Illinois and Florida;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we congratulate Betty Lindquist on her retirement from the
11 field of special education after decades of dedicated service,
12 and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Betty Lindquist as a symbol of our esteem and
16 respect.