



HR0935

LRB104 21951 LAW 37898 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Allan
4 Mellis, who passed away on April 26, 2026; and

5 WHEREAS, For more than 50 years, Allan Mellis, known as
6 "The Mayor of Lincoln Park", served his community in Chicago's
7 Lincoln Park neighborhood as president and board member of the
8 Wrightwood Neighbors Association; and

9 WHEREAS, Allan Mellis advocated strongly for the
10 development, safety, and growth of Lincoln Park, one of the
11 densest neighborhoods in Chicago, bringing together various
12 community members' interests behind a common goal of improving
13 their neighborhood; and

14 WHEREAS, Allan Mellis played a key role in launching Taste
15 of Lincoln Avenue, which grew to become one of Chicago's most
16 iconic food festivals and neighborhood events; and

17 WHEREAS, When the Lincoln Park branch of the Chicago
18 Public Library faced a threat of closure, Allan Mellis
19 organized his community and helped not only save but expand
20 the library to a new location on Fullerton and Racine, which is
21 now among the city's busiest; and

1 WHEREAS, Allan Mellis served on the DePaul Neighborhood
2 Advisory Committee as well as the Children's Memorial Hospital
3 Advisory Committee, managing the organizations' relationships
4 with the community for the common good for years; and

5 WHEREAS, After working for IBM in Chicago for 25 years,
6 instituting positive change within that organization, Allan
7 Mellis transitioned in his career and worked as director of
8 planning and development for the Forest Preserve District of
9 Cook County, where he managed a number of projects, including
10 the renovation of Whealan Pool Aquatic Center and the
11 construction of Little Red School House Nature Center; and

12 WHEREAS, Allan Mellis was one of America's foremost
13 collectors of historical ice cream memorabilia, collecting
14 over 30,000 ice cream related items, including signs, dishes,
15 menus, and more, eventually donating many items in his
16 collection to Finnegan's Old Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor at the
17 Museum of Science and Industry; he also founded the Ice
18 Screamers, an association of ice cream memorabilia collectors;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Even after a stroke in 2021, Allan Mellis
21 admirably continued his efforts to serve his community,
22 tirelessly fighting for positive change in Lincoln Park while

1 monitoring new developments and helping to shape the
2 community's future; and

3 WHEREAS, Allan Mellis is survived by his wife, Linda
4 Polacheck Mellis; his sons, David (Dena Molnar) Mellis and
5 Daniel (April Sheridan) Mellis; three grandchildren; and his
6 sister, Marilyn Longman; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we mourn the passing of Allan Mellis and extend our sincere
10 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
11 him; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Allan Mellis as an expression of our
14 deepest sympathy.