



SR0378

LRB104 14382 MST 27518 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to
3 commend Roger L. Byrne on his years of service to the Village
4 of Vernon Hills; and

5 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne and his wife, Cathy, have lived in
6 the Village of Vernon Hills since 1977, moving from the south
7 side of Chicago to become one of the first homeowners in the
8 Deerpath neighborhood; and

9 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne has served his community tirelessly,
10 beginning in 1987 as village trustee until being elected
11 village president beginning in 1993; and

12 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne has advocated for the best interests
13 of all during his 38 years of public service, believing in the
14 importance of communication and collaboration to do what is
15 best for all residents, businesses, and non-profit partners;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne has been instrumental in bringing all
18 entities to the table and ensuring that schools, park
19 districts, library districts, and fire protection districts
20 receive the support they need to be among the best in the
21 nation; and

1 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne oversaw tremendous growth for the
2 Village of Vernon Hills; resident population increased from
3 9,827 in 1980 to 26,850 in 2020 as the village added several
4 new, well-planned housing developments and neighborhoods;
5 businesses flocked to the village, including nearly 300
6 restaurants and retailers, and the community is home to
7 hundreds of small businesses and large corporations, including
8 several world headquarters and Fortune 500 companies; and

9 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne's initial tasks in 1993 included
10 developing the village's first strategic plan, which focused
11 on housing options, a post office, a Metra station, a library,
12 and a high school, which have all become reality; and

13 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne played an integral part in creating
14 the Vernon Hills Athletic Complex, and on June 26, 2001,
15 officials were breaking ground on the new facility, which
16 continues to serve athletes and families from the wider region
17 and across the nation; other efforts that benefited from his
18 hard work and support include the creation of Vernon Hills
19 High School, the development of Mellody Farm, the rebirth of
20 Hawthorn Mall, and the annexation and development of what
21 became the Gregg's Landing subdivision; and

22 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne has been a leader not only for the

1 Village of Vernon Hills but also for the entire region; and

2 WHEREAS, Roger Byrne is the ninth and longest-serving
3 village president and has overseen the growth of his community
4 as it moved from tracts of empty farm fields to become an
5 award-winning community filled with vibrant neighborhoods,
6 strong businesses, outstanding schools, and exceptional
7 services; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we commend Roger L.
10 Byrne on his service to the Village of Vernon Hills, and we
11 wish him the best in all his future endeavors; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Roger Byrne as a symbol of our respect and esteem.