



SR0587

LRB104 15524 LAW 28689 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to  
3 congratulate Kaskaskia College on the occasion of achieving 85  
4 years as an educational institution; and

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WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College was established as Centralia  
6 Township Junior College in 1940, and it holds the distinction  
7 of being the first community college founded in the State of  
8 Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, In 1965, the Illinois General Assembly enacted  
10 the Illinois Community College Act, which provided for the  
11 formal creation and recognition of community college districts  
12 across the State to ensure greater access to affordable higher  
13 education and workforce training opportunities; and

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WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College was the first institution  
15 officially recognized under the Illinois Community College Act  
16 of 1965, becoming Community College District 501 and serving  
17 as a model for accessible, affordable, and comprehensive  
18 higher education; and

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WHEREAS, Over the past 85 years, Kaskaskia College has  
20 grown substantially and now serves thousands of students  
21 annually across a multicounty district that includes Clinton,

1 Marion, Washington, Bond, Fayette, and portions of surrounding  
2 counties in Southern Illinois; and

3 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has consistently demonstrated a  
4 strong commitment to academic excellence, workforce  
5 development, and community service by offering diverse  
6 educational programs, technical training, and cultural  
7 enrichment activities to meet the needs of students,  
8 employers, and the region as a whole; and

9 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College, as the premier provider of  
10 workforce education and training in Southern Illinois, has  
11 partnered with local industries and economic development  
12 organizations to build a strong, skilled workforce that  
13 contributes to the growth and vitality of the region; and

14 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has provided generations of  
15 families with opportunities, empowering students to achieve  
16 their educational goals, build successful careers, and become  
17 active participants in their communities; and

18 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College has been formally recognized by  
19 numerous local and state leaders for the tremendous impact it  
20 has had on the entire Southern Illinois region; and

21 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia College is currently led by President

1 George Evans, the institution's 11th president, providing  
2 visionary leadership and upholding the college's mission of  
3 service, innovation, and excellence; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate  
6 Kaskaskia College on its 85th anniversary, and we commend its  
7 historic role as Illinois' first recognized community college  
8 under the Illinois Community College Act of 1965; and be it  
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That we commend the leadership of Kaskaskia  
11 College President George Evans, the board of trustees, the  
12 faculty, the staff, and the administration for their  
13 dedication to providing high-quality education and workforce  
14 training, positively impacting the lives of countless  
15 students, alumni, and families; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
17 presented to Kaskaskia College President George Evans, the  
18 board of trustees, and the faculty and staff as a symbol of our  
19 esteem and gratitude.