



HR0177

LRB100 11658 MST 22517 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern recently completed illustrious
3 career in the Illinois wine industry, which included thousands
4 of hours devoted to serving on the board of the Illinois Grape
5 Growers & Vintners Association, and helping to lead the
6 association and its members through turbulent times; and

7

WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern is a native son of Illinois; he
8 was born in Du Quoin in 1955 and graduated from Pinckneyville
9 High School in 1973 and Rend Lake Community College in 1975
10 with an Associate's Degree in Applied Science in Agriculture
11 Mechanics; he graduated from Southern Illinois University
12 Carbondale in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in plant and soil
13 science; and

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WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern's passion for making wine
15 started around 1985 with a jug in his basement and his friend
16 Bill Needham; and

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WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern's wine business took root and
18 grew splendidly into the Pheasant Hollow Winery, which was
19 opened on July 4, 1999, offering six varieties of wine and
20 producing about 8,000 gallons of wine a year; and

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WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern's passion and talent enabled

1 Pheasant Hollow to grow into a nationally known winery with
2 production of 34,000 gallons a year, employing five people full
3 time and another two-dozen part-time; and

4 WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern's vision shared with other
5 grape growers and winemakers in Illinois; it has helped the
6 industry grow tenfold over the last 30 years; and

7 WHEREAS, As President of the Illinois Grape Growers &
8 Vintners Association, Bruce Morgenstern testified numerous
9 times in the Illinois General Assembly to encourage State
10 support of the industry; he helped develop and advance
11 proposals to make grape growing more environmentally
12 compatible; he was the driving force behind numerous festivals
13 and events which helped bring Illinois wine into the
14 marketplace, all the while being a trusted resource for getting
15 the most out of the grapes and making the best wine possible;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern helped guide the Illinois wine
18 industry through the challenging period when the ability of
19 wineries to ship directly to consumers or distribute directly
20 to retailers was threatened, by coming to the Capitol in
21 Springfield to explain the issue to any legislator who would
22 stop long enough for him to make his case, all the while
23 encouraging others in the industry to make their voices heard;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern has demonstrated his commitment
3 to Illinois beyond the wine industry, as an active member of
4 the Perry County Republican Party, including eight years as
5 Chairman, as a member of the VESTA board, six years on the
6 Man-Tra-Con board, and an incredible 40 years of service to the
7 Optimist Club of Pinckneyville; and

8 WHEREAS, Bruce Morgenstern is the proud father of Amanda
9 and husband to his beloved wife, Mary; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
12 congratulate Bruce Morgenstern on being a champion for Illinois
13 wine; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Bruce Morgenstern and his family as an expression
16 of our esteem and respect.