



SR1387

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Senator Jason Barickman has represented the residents of central Illinois with distinction in the General Assembly for nearly 12 years; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman has served with honor in the Senate since January 2013 and in the House of Representatives from January 2011 to December 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman has striven to be an independent voice in favor of limited and responsible governance for our State and has demonstrated that there is space for independent and thoughtful representation in our increasingly polarized political climate; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman was selected to participate in the inaugural class of the 2012 Edgar Fellows Leadership Program, which works to help future leaders bridge bipartisan divides and work together, and he continues to be active in that program; and

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WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman has played an important role in bringing historic changes to the State of Illinois, as he has worked to make the State of Illinois a better place; and

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1           WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman has been a leader of education  
2 reform initiatives, including legislation providing school  
3 choice to families struggling to escape failing districts, and  
4 he played an instrumental role in fixing the education funding  
5 disparities across the State, ensuring that all children,  
6 regardless of their zip code, have access to a high-quality  
7 education; and

8           WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman embraced a pro-growth mindset and  
9 supported initiatives that fostered new economic opportunities  
10 in Illinois, including his negotiation of legislation that  
11 legalized adult-use cannabis, publicly stating that adult use  
12 of cannabis is largely a personal choice; he has regularly  
13 been honored for his work in the Illinois General Assembly  
14 from agriculture and business groups; and

15           WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman championed the notion that  
16 government should give individuals freedom over their life  
17 decisions and fairness under the law; in supporting Marriage  
18 Equality, he said it was simply the right thing to do; and

19           WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman sought to engage our youth in the  
20 political process and created the Senator Barickman Youth  
21 Advisory Council, in which hundreds of central Illinois high  
22 school students participated and were encouraged to be active  
23 and engaged citizens; the program has been expanded throughout

1 the State; and

2 WHEREAS, As the Floor Leader for the Senate Republican  
3 Caucus, Sen. Barickman has been able to serve as an important  
4 voice for his Republican colleagues on numerous important and  
5 controversial bills; and

6 WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman has embraced the notion of a  
7 citizen legislator, continuously maintaining his professional  
8 endeavors outside of the General Assembly, including as a  
9 partner in a real estate company and as an attorney, as well as  
10 an occasional adjunct college professor at his alma matter,  
11 Illinois State University; and

12 WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman was born on May 1, 1975 and raised  
13 on a family farm near Streator; he is the son of Jim and Judy  
14 Barickman and brother to Joel Barickman; and

15 WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman is a proud veteran and served as  
16 an infantry soldier in the Illinois Army National Guard; and

17 WHEREAS, Sen. Barickman and his wife, Kristin, have three  
18 young children, August who is eleven years old, Walter who is  
19 ten years old, and Lianna who is five years old; and

20 WHEREAS, In his tenure as a lawmaker, Sen. Barickman has

1     been able to serve with distinction; and

2           WHEREAS, Lawmakers and legislative staff alike know and  
3     appreciate Sen. Barickman for his commitment to the people of  
4     Illinois and to good public policy; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
6     ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate  
7     Senator Jason Barickman on his retirement from the Illinois  
8     General Assembly after more than a decade of honorable and  
9     dedicated service; and be it further

10          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11     presented to Sen. Barickman with our friendship, our gratitude  
12     for his hard work, and our best wishes for his future  
13     endeavors.