

HR0917 LRB103 43078 MST 76332 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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- 2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of 3 Representatives wish to congratulate Airport Director Danny 4 Adams and the staff of St. Louis Regional Airport on receiving 5 the Illinois Reliever Airport of the Year award; and
- WHEREAS, Civic Memorial Airport began operating in 1946
 with a sod runway and changed its name to St. Louis Regional
 Airport in 1984; and
 - WHEREAS, St. Louis Regional Airport, classified as an FAA reliever airport, has created more than 1,500 jobs with an annual economic impact of \$480 million; it has two runways capable of handling a wide array of aircraft, allowing it to serve a diverse set of clientele, including private aviators, Fortune 500 companies, and regional aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul customers; it averages over 80,000 operations annually and pilots have a fast, tower-guided approach with long runways capable of landing aircraft as large as a C-5A or a Boeing 747; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Since September 2023, St. Louis Regional Airport
 20 has built \$8.5 million worth of improvements, which include
 21 the Runway 17/35 rehabilitation, the South Apron expansion,
 22 the T-hangar Taxilane reconstruction, and the Public Parking

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- Lot rehabilitation; it has also undergone a \$20 million expansion through West Star Aviation's investment; after a 15-year hiatus, it again offers professional flight training through Piston Aviation Flight School, providing a high-demand service; due to all of these projects, the airport has experienced a 39% increase in air traffic over the last 12 months; and
- 8 WHEREAS, St. Louis Regional Airport has gone from a single 9 sod runway to the 2,300-acre site it is today; despite changes 10 in ownership and name, the original Walston Aviation name is 11 still present in the field today and the original terminal is 12 being returned to aeronautical use after many years of serving 13 as a restaurant; and
- 14 WHEREAS, St. Louis Regional Airport is truly one of the 15 top general aviation airports in the St. Louis area and 16 Illinois today, and it continues positively impacting many 17 companies and people's lives in the great State of Illinois; 18 therefore, be it
 - RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Airport Director Danny Adams and the staff of St. Louis Regional Airport on receiving the Illinois Reliever Airport of the Year award, and we recognize all of the

1 contributions by its leaders, employees, and community members

- who have helped improve it over the years; and be it further
- 3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
- 4 presented to St. Louis Regional Airport and Airport Director
- 5 Danny Adams as an expression of our respect and esteem for its
- 6 positive impact on travel in the State of Illinois.