



HR0919

LRB103 42867 LAW 76118 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Wendt Funeral Home
4 for being one of the oldest funeral homes in the United States;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Wendt Funeral Home was originally established
7 by cabinetmaker J. Robert Earler in 1866; and

8 WHEREAS, J. Robert Earler, who came to Illinois from
9 Germany and was called upon to provide wooden caskets to
10 farmers in the area, opened a funeral parlor in Port Byron
11 shortly after the Civil War; he then passed his business to his
12 son-in-law, August H. Wendt, in 1881; and

13 WHEREAS, August H. Wendt ran the funeral parlor from 1881
14 to 1920 before passing it on to his sons, Earl and Robert
15 Wendt, who ran the family business until 1945; during their
16 ownership, they purchased a large Queen Anne Victorian house
17 in Moline, where the business continues to operate; and

18 WHEREAS, The Wendt Funeral Home continued to be passed on
19 through brothers and sons; today, it is owned and operated by
20 Earl Wendt IV, the sixth generation of the family, who became a
21 licensed funeral director after graduating from Worsham School

1 of Mortuary in 1983 and took over the funeral home upon his
2 father's passing; and

3 WHEREAS, The Wendt family is immensely proud of the family
4 funeral business and credits its success to their values of
5 compassion, professionalism, and attention to detail, a legacy
6 carried on through six generations; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate the Wendt Funeral Home for its longstanding
10 business and service to its community, and we wish it many more
11 years of operation for generations to come; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the Wendt Funeral Home as a symbol of our respect
14 and esteem.