



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate the City of Benld  
4 on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and centennial  
5 celebration; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1835, brothers Elias M. and Ben L. Dorsey  
7 received a land grant of at least 13,000 acres; Ben deeded his  
8 portion to Elias; Elias fathered 13 children, one named  
9 Benjamin L. Dorsey II after his uncle; Elias deeded 1,000 acres  
10 of land to each of the 13 children; Benjamin L. Dorsey II was  
11 deeded the ground south of the Northwestern Railroad and east  
12 of what is now Illinois Route 4; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1886, coal was discovered on their property;  
14 the Dorsey family continued to carry on coal transactions; one  
15 of the most active in the coal business was Benjamin L. Dorsey  
16 Jr., who was an heir to Ben L. Dorsey II; Mrs. Ethel Clarkson,  
17 grandchild, gave the ground in honor of her grandfather, thus  
18 the town received its unusual name of Benld: Ben comes from his  
19 first name, L from his middle initial, and D from the first  
20 letter of his last name; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1904, Benld became a village and has grown to  
22 be a city; Benld will celebrate its centennial from September 3  
23 through September 6, 2004; therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
25 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
26 congratulate the City of Benld on the auspicious occasion of  
27 its 100th anniversary and centennial celebration; and be it  
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
30 presented to the City of Benld with our best wishes.