



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representative of the
3 State of Illinois are pleased to honor St. Augustine College on
4 the occasion of its annual El Puente Awards Gala that will
5 occur on Friday, May 20, 2005; and

6 WHEREAS, The college was created under the auspices of the
7 Episcopal Diocese and authorized by the Illinois Board of
8 Higher Education on October 7, 1980; and

9 WHEREAS, The mission of St. Augustine College is to make
10 the United States system of higher education accessible to a
11 diverse student population with emphasis on those of Hispanic
12 descent, to strengthen ethnic identity, to reinforce cultural
13 interaction, and to build a bridge to fill cultural,
14 educational, and socio-economic gaps; and

15 WHEREAS, St. Augustine College provides pre-collegiate and
16 collegiate learning opportunities to more than 2,000 students
17 and also provides a safe, enriched environment for the more
18 than 300 children in the College's Head Start and child
19 development programs; and

20 WHEREAS, The institution offers an academically
21 challenging yet supportive environment to its very diverse
22 student population; it acts as a bridge to better employment,
23 education, and full participation in the life of the community;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, St. Augustine College provides an opportunity for
26 higher education to Hispanic Americans and to all Americans who
27 are willing to develop their potential and to acquire the
28 command of a second language; St. Augustine has been the
29 Midwest's only bilingual college; and

1 WHEREAS, The Governing Board of St. Augustine College
2 established the El Puente Awards to recognize individuals and
3 organizations for their outstanding commitment to education
4 and support of the Hispanic community; all proceeds from the
5 Awards Dinner go toward the St. Augustine College Scholarship
6 Fund created to support promising students with financial need;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we honor St. Augustine College at the El Puente Silver
11 Anniversary Awards Gala for the significant educational
12 opportunities it provides to Hispanic Americans and its student
13 body; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to St. Augustine College as an expression of our
16 esteem.