



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives offer our sincere congratulations to Matthew  
4 Gaughan, the 2006 National Youth Ambassador for Easter Seals  
5 National; and

6 WHEREAS, Twelve year old Matty lives in Elmhurst with his  
7 parents, Noreen and Paul Gaughan, and brother, Ryan; and

8 WHEREAS, When Matty was only 10 months old, he began  
9 receiving treatment at Easter Seals DuPage for a form of  
10 cerebral palsy known as spastic diplegia, which affects an  
11 individual's extremities and fine motor skills; and

12 WHEREAS, Early in his treatment he wore braces on his legs  
13 and used a walker; and

14 WHEREAS, Over the past 11 years Matty has worked with his  
15 physical therapist, Jim Alviti, making great strides in  
16 improving his quality of movement and today walks independently  
17 and requires no braces; and

18 WHEREAS, Now in the seventh grade at Immaculate Conception  
19 in Elmhurst, Matty excels in school, loves playing baseball,  
20 golf, and football, where he has been nicknamed "The Crusher";  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Through weekly physical and occupational therapy,  
23 he works to sustain the strength and mobility that he has  
24 worked so hard to gain and will continue the workout regimen as  
25 he gets taller and gains weight; and

26 WHEREAS, As Easter Seals' National Youth Ambassador, Matty  
27 will serve as an advocate for Easter Seals and other children  
28 with disabilities; and

1           WHEREAS, Over the next year Matty will be informing people  
2 from across the country about Easter Seals' services; and

3           WHEREAS, As the National Youth Ambassador, he receives the  
4 honor of speaking at a national convention and at fundraisers;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, In addition, his image will be on cards and  
7 posters promoting the Easter Seals' cause nationwide; and

8           WHEREAS, He will share his firsthand experience about how  
9 with quality specialized treatment and determination,  
10 individuals can achieve the same success he has achieved; and

11           WHEREAS, His achievement is a source of inspiration to the  
12 entire State and for other individuals with disabilities;  
13 therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
15 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, and  
16 that we do hereby offer our congratulations to Matthew Gaughan;  
17 and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to Matthew Gaughan and Easter Seals DuPage.