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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate Joliet Fire Chief Bill O'Hara on the occasion of his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Chief O'Hara is a third-generation member of the Joliet Fire Department; he will have served as chief for 15 months when his retirement takes effect on February 24, 2006; and

WHEREAS, He has served the department for 32 years, starting his career in 1974 at the age of 21; he climbed the department's ladder over the years, holding every rank with the exception of division chief; he was the deputy chief when he took the position of Chief in October 2004; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as chief, he brought to completion the construction of Station 9, and he launched and supervised the construction of Station 10, which is nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, He was born into a family of firefighters; as a boy, he regularly visited the stations where his grandfather and his father worked; his grandfather, William H. O'Hara, served the department from 1926 until his death in 1961, reaching the rank of assistant chief; when he began his own career, Chief O'Hara served C shift at Station 3; his father, William A. O'Hara, was a lieutenant on B shift at the same station; on occasion, the shifts overlapped, and he would serve under his father; and

WHEREAS, Chief O'Hara plans on spending time with his grandchildren in his retirement; he is the proud grandfather of Kaylei Elizabeth and another grandchild on the way; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, we
3 congratulate Chief Bill O'Hara on the occasion of his
4 retirement, and we thank him for his many years of service
5 protecting the citizens of Joliet; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Chief O'Hara as an expression of our esteem and
8 with best wishes for a relaxing retirement.