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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Kevin Bell has served the Lincoln Park Zoo since 1976, when, at the age of 23, he was hired as curator of birds for the zoo and became the youngest curator in Lincoln Park Zoo's history; though young, Mr. Bell came to the zoo with impressive experience having served as a keeper at the Bronx Zoo, a zoo he was very familiar with as he grew up on the zoo's ground, his father Joseph having served as Director of the Department of Ornithology for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Since arriving at Lincoln Park Zoo, Mr. Bell has moved up the ranks to Assistant Director in 1993, and in the same year he was named Director; in 1995, he also became President and CEO of The Lincoln Park Zoological Society; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell has been a steadfast supporter of natural preservation and conservation throughout the world; he has traveled the globe to Africa, Central America, Iceland, and the Pacific to help develop understanding and programs to protect vulnerable species; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Park Zoo is one of Chicago's finest cultural and scientific institutions; open 365 days a year, the Lincoln Park Zoo offers the over 3,000,000 visitors a year free access to over 1,200 animals representing 230 species; none of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of Kevin Bell; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Kevin J. Bell on 30 years of service to Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, and we thank him for his devotion the Zoo; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Mr. Bell as an expression of our esteem.