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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Representative Terry Parke of Schaumburg on his service to the people of his legislative district; and

WHEREAS, Representative Parke has been a member of the Illinois House since 1984 and has served this body with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Representative Parke's accomplishments are numerous: he has been recognized as the Freshman Legislator of the Year by the Illinois Hospital Association; he was twice named Representative of the Year by the Illinois Health Care Association; he was named Legislator of the Year from the Illinois Nurses Association and Legislator of the Year from the Illinois Association of Park Districts; he was the recipient of the 2005 Presidential Award from the Children's Advocacy Center of North and Northwest Cook County, the Golden Apple Award from the Illinois Association of School Boards, and the Illinois Manufactured Housing Association's Legislator of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, He has been the Co-Chairman of the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, the spokesperson for the Insurance Committee, and a member of the committees on Environment & Energy, Consumer Protection, Environmental Health, Labor, and Telecommunications; and

WHEREAS, Prior to serving in the General Assembly, Representative Parke's public service also included terms as a Schaumburg Township School Trustee from 1979 to 1981 and a Schaumburg Township Trustee from 1981 to 1984; he was a member of the Republican National Convention, elected as an Illinois Delegate in 1988 and 1996 and as an Illinois Alternate Delegate

1 in 1992 and 2000; and

2 WHEREAS, He has been a long-standing member of the Hanover
3 Organization of Republicans and the Schaumburg Township
4 Alliance of Republicans, and has served as a Precinct Captain
5 for 25 years; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Parke was born a politician, with
7 his first political speech given as a two-year-old to a
8 trainload of listeners, according to memories left from his
9 loving mother; and

10 WHEREAS, He was a trusted Boy Scout and Eagle Scout; if
11 requested, he would indulge you with his many camping stories,
12 including winter camp-outs in tents in the snow; he was on the
13 high school wrestling team, but was quite a lightweight,
14 weighing in at 110 pounds; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Parke honorably served in the
16 United States Army for two years during the Vietnam War,
17 serving our country in Germany; while in Europe, he provided
18 leadership guidance as a Boy Scout leader for American boys
19 whose families were stationed in Europe; during his tour he was
20 a decorated "Soldier of the Month" and was recommended for
21 Officer's Training School; and

22 WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his overseas military duty
23 in 1968, Representative Parke returned to Southern Illinois
24 University to complete his degree in education; there he met
25 his wife, Joanne; therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
27 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
28 we wish Representative Parke all the best in his future
29 endeavors and congratulate him on a job well done in the
30 General Assembly; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Representative Parke, his wife, Joanne, and their
3 two daughters, Kelli and Tiffany, as an expression of our
4 esteem and respect for our colleague and friend.