



HR1266

LRB095 21014 GRL 50119 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Roger Key on the  
4 occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the  
5 Arlington Heights Park District after 35 years of dedicated  
6 service at the end of June 2008; and

7           WHEREAS, Roger Key has served the Arlington Heights Park  
8 District for 35 years and has been in the park and recreation  
9 profession for over 38 years; he has held various positions  
10 within the Park District; he began his career in 1973 as a  
11 Recreation Coordinator, followed by 3 years as Assistant  
12 Superintendent of Recreation, 13 years as Superintendent of  
13 Recreation, and 9 years as Director of Recreation and  
14 Facilities; and

15           WHEREAS, In 2002, Roger Key was promoted to the position of  
16 Executive Director of the Arlington Heights Park District; as  
17 Executive Director, he manages an agency that serves a  
18 community of 78,000 residents with a budget of \$24 million and  
19 a staff of over 100 full-time and 1,000 part-time employees; as  
20 Executive Director, his work ethic, leadership skills, and  
21 enthusiasm for the profession have been readily evident on a  
22 daily basis; and

1           WHEREAS, Roger Key has been instrumental in the development  
2 and renovation of many projects in the Arlington Heights Park  
3 District, including the re-development of the Pioneer Park  
4 Community Center, the development of the Sunset Meadows Driving  
5 Range Project, the renovation of the Olympic Indoor Swim  
6 Center, the development of the Lake Arlington 50 acre boating  
7 facility, the development of the Nickol Knoll Clubhouse and  
8 golf course, the re-development of the Historical Museum  
9 Intergovernmental Agreement, the development of Melas Park  
10 Sports Complex, the development of the Counselor-in-the-Park  
11 Program, the re-development of four outdoor swimming pools and  
12 one indoor pool, the development of the Children at Play (CAP)  
13 Program, and the development of a cooperative senior  
14 programming at the state-of-the-art Senior Center; and

15           WHEREAS, Roger Key was the driving force behind the joint  
16 construction of two community gymnasiums with local school  
17 districts, while avoiding duplication of services and the  
18 spending of tax dollars; he was also responsible for overseeing  
19 the 2006/2007 recreation programming of the District, which  
20 included over 260,000 participants and over 1,458,900  
21 participation hours; and

22           WHEREAS, Roger Key is well known by his peers as a  
23 "hands-on" administrator; he is the first to stop by events or  
24 activities on the weekends and evenings and has been an active

1 "co-worker" at District-wide events, such as the annual Picnic  
2 in Park, Guard Competition, the City Swim Meet, and the local  
3 Frontier Days community festival; he regularly visits the  
4 community centers, pools, tennis clubs, and golf courses and  
5 meets with part-time staff, instructors, registrars, and  
6 patrons; as a leader, he believes that input from all levels of  
7 the organization are important to maintaining quality customer  
8 service and well-informed staff; and

9 WHEREAS, Roger Key has worked with administrative staff and  
10 local officials of the village, school districts, library, and  
11 businesses to promote not only quality recreation facilities  
12 and programs, but a quality of life that is unique to Arlington  
13 Heights; he has been instrumental in numerous cooperative  
14 agreements with local government agencies and park districts;  
15 he has also coordinated the construction of joint-use  
16 gymnasiums and encourages staff development of joint  
17 programming and events with local agencies; and

18 WHEREAS, Roger Key has also devoted great time and effort  
19 toward other professional outreach programs; he has served on  
20 the Distinguished Leisure Agency committee since 1996 and  
21 chaired the committee in 2002; he has been very involved on the  
22 IPRA Mentor committee, working with professionals interested  
23 in "mentoring" other professionals; he has served on the  
24 Northwest Special Recreation Association's Board of Directors

1 since 2002, serving as the board's Chairman in 2006; he is also  
2 active in numerous civic organizations, such as the Kiwanis and  
3 Rotary Clubs; and

4 WHEREAS, Roger Key is an avid runner and swimmer; in 2006,  
5 he ran the Chicago Marathon with his daughter; he then  
6 qualified and ran in the Boston Marathon in April of 2007 and  
7 April of 2008; and

8 WHEREAS, Roger Key will be remembered fondly by his  
9 colleagues as an ethical, diligent, dedicated, kind, and caring  
10 worker, supervisor, and friend; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
13 congratulate Roger Key on the occasion of his retirement and  
14 wish him continued success and happiness in the future; and be  
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to Roger Key as a symbol of our esteem and respect.