



HR1486

LRB096 24357 KXB 43936 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate James F. Capraro,  
4 the founding Executive Director and CEO of the Greater  
5 Southwest Development Corporation, on his retirement; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Capraro retired from the position he has held  
7 for 35 years on July 2, 2010; and

8           WHEREAS, Jim, or "Cappy", is the son of Italian Catholic  
9 immigrants, and grew up in Marquette Park; and

10           WHEREAS, After witnessing Dr. Martin Luther King's march in  
11 Marquette Park, Mr. Capraro made the decision to work in  
12 community development; he was involved in organizing an antiwar  
13 movement during college; he later took a job with the Southwest  
14 Community Congress to work against block busting and redlining,  
15 both of which kept blacks out of neighborhoods; and

16           WHEREAS, He also advocated for the passage of the Federal  
17 Home Mortgage Disclosure and Community Reinvestments Acts,  
18 leading him to establish the Greater Southwest Development  
19 Corporation in 1976; and

20           WHEREAS, During his time with the Greater Southwest

1 Development Corporation he worked on major development  
2 projects, including 3 senior housing projects, the Jewel Osco  
3 grocery store, the IMAN health clinic and headquarters, and the  
4 rehabilitation of single family properties for first time home  
5 buyers; and

6 WHEREAS, Under his leadership the Greater Southwest  
7 Development Corporation was designated by the National  
8 Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation as a national model for  
9 commercial revitalization organizations and was selected in  
10 2001 by the Chicago Local Initiatives Support Corporation as a  
11 recipient of the Outstanding Community Development  
12 Organization award; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Capraro continues to work as the Principal of  
14 Capraro Consulting and works across the country for National  
15 Local Initiatives Support Corporation, promoting comprehensive  
16 community development; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
18 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
19 congratulate Jim Capraro for his years of hard work and  
20 dedication and wish him the best in his future endeavors; and  
21 be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Jim Capraro as a symbol of our respect and esteem.