



HR0133

LRB097 10988 KXB 51650 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Ronald E. Powell,
4 President of Local 881 of the United Food and Commercial
5 Workers International Union (UFCW) and resident of Mundelein on
6 his 50th anniversary of serving working men and women in the
7 retail food and drug industry; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Powell's career in the labor movement began as
9 a Field Representative for Local 881 (then known as the United
10 Retail Workers) in 1961; he was appointed to serve as Vice
11 President/Director of Field Operations in 1973, and later
12 served as the union's Secretary-Treasurer; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to leading Local 881 UFCW as
14 President, Mr. Powell is a Vice President on the UFCW
15 International Executive Board and also a Vice President of the
16 Illinois State AFL-CIO; and

17 WHEREAS, Under Mr. Powell's direction, Local 881 has
18 assumed the role of a progressive and innovative leader on
19 behalf of its members in the areas of work-site representation,
20 membership services, benefits, communications, and activities;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Powell has been a dynamic force in promoting
2 the union's involvement in a variety of charitable endeavors,
3 including thousands of dollars being raised for the Leukemia
4 and Lymphoma Society to facilitate research toward finding a
5 cure; he also initiated fundraising campaigns for Jackson Park
6 Hospital, the Little City Foundation, and served as a former
7 member of the Boards of the United Way of Illinois and Blue
8 Cross Blue Shield of Illinois; he also served for 10 years on
9 the Village Board of Mundelein; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2010, Mr. Powell was appointed by Governor
11 Quinn to serve on the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition
12 Authority Board; he has also served as Chairman of the Illinois
13 State Board of Investment and on the Illinois Workers'
14 Compensation Medical Fee Advisory Board, and he is currently a
15 member of the Board of Directors of the Amalgamated Bank of
16 Chicago; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Powell has proven to be a strong and
18 enthusiastic advocate of union members and American workers in
19 the area of legislative lobbying and has led the way to work on
20 behalf of labor-minded political candidates in all levels of
21 government who are sensitive to the needs of working people,
22 including President Barack Obama; he has also been elected as a
23 Delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1996, 2000,
24 and 2008; and

1 WHEREAS, Ronald Powell and his wife, Lois, are the parents
2 of four children and the proud grandparents of twelve;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we congratulate Mr. Ronald E. Powell on a successful career in
7 the labor movement and for his many contributions to the men
8 and women of the United Food and Commercial Workers, which
9 represents persons of many backgrounds and walks of life who
10 come together for the shared goal of achieving the American
11 dream and protecting and improving the livelihoods of all
12 workers; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Ronald E. Powell and to the membership of the
15 United Food and Commercial Workers International Union as a
16 symbol of his contributions to the American labor movement.