



HR0883

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of former
4 Illinois State Representative Virgil Cornwell Wikoff of
5 Champaign, who passed away on March 16, 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, He was born February 6, 1927, in Decatur, the son
7 of Virgil L. and Grace Cornwell Wikoff; he married Helen Moore
8 on August 23, 1947, in Maroa; and

9 WHEREAS, He grew up on a farm southwest of Maroa that has
10 been in the Wikoff family since the 1860s; after graduation
11 from Maroa Township High School in 1944, he enlisted in the
12 United States Navy and served in the Pacific Theater; he then
13 attended the University of Illinois and received his Bachelor
14 of Science degree in architectural engineering in 1951,
15 following which he was recalled to active duty in the United
16 States Naval Reserve and served for 18 months during the Korean
17 Conflict; and

18 WHEREAS, When he returned to Champaign, he and a friend
19 founded Lyman-Wikoff Inc., a general construction firm; he was
20 a charter member of the Champaign-Urbana Chapter of the
21 National Association of Home Builders; he was also a member of
22 the Central Illinois Builders Association of the Contractors of

1 America, with whom he held several offices; and

2 WHEREAS, He became active in the Champaign-Urbana Jaycees
3 and served in many local and State offices; he was awarded a
4 lifetime membership as a Senator in the Junior Chamber
5 International in 1963; he was elected to the Champaign City
6 Council in 1963 and served 4 years; he was then elected mayor
7 of Champaign and served 8 years; during that time he was active
8 in many associations, including the Illinois Municipal League,
9 serving both on its board and as president; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1977, he was elected to the Illinois House of
11 Representatives and served 3 terms; he was later appointed as a
12 member of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and for many
13 years was a public member of the Illinois Medical Disciplinary
14 Commission; he was also a member of the American Arbitration
15 Association; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Wikoff was a member of the Masonic Lodge,
17 Bloomington Consistory, Ansar Shrine, and for a time was a
18 member and chairman of the board of managers of the Masonic
19 Home in Sullivan; he was also an active member of First
20 Presbyterian Church in Champaign; he served on several boards,
21 including the Salvation Army and Developmental Service Center
22 and was a member of the VFW, Kiwanis, and the Champaign County
23 Farm Bureau; he was an honorary member of the University of

1 Illinois Varsity I Association, a past president of both
2 Quarterback and Rebounders, and was also a long time supporter
3 of University of Illinois sports and the University of Illinois
4 Foundation; and

5 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents and an
6 infant daughter; and

7 WHEREAS, Virgil Wikoff is survived by his wife, Helen; his
8 daughters, Terri (Robert) Bolduc and Patti (Greg) Bolton; his
9 grandchildren, Jon (Jennie) Bolduc, Holly (Cavan) Dunn, Josh
10 Bolduc, Kendra (Jon) Bristow, and Kristi (Todd) Carlson; and
11 his great-grandchildren, Sophia Dunn, Casey Bolduc, Lyndley
12 Carlson, and Atley Carlson; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
16 former Illinois State Representative Virgil Wikoff; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of former Illinois State Representative
20 Virgil Wikoff as a symbol of our sincere sympathy.