



HR1051

LRB097 21395 GRL 69355 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Ben C. Harpstrite of New Baden, who passed away on April 24, 2012; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite was born on June 10, 1926, in Trenton; he married Eleanor E. "Ellie", nee Schmidt, Harpstrite on June 19, 1947, in Trenton; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite was a farmer and operated Harpstrite Farms with his wife and his brother, Howard; he was also an insurance agent for Harpstrite Insurance Agency; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite served on the Clinton County Board of School Trustees from 1950 until 1956; he also served as the Lookingglass Township Assessor from 1956 until 1960 and was a member of the Clinton County Board of Supervisors from 1960 until 1966; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite served as an Illinois State Representative from 1967 until 1974, during the 75th through the 78th General Assemblies; he focused mainly on rural issues during his tenure in the Illinois House of Representatives; and

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WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite was a member of the First United

1 Methodist Church in Trenton; he was a charter member of the New
2 Baden Lions Club for 60 years; he was a member of Trenton
3 Masonic Lodge 109, the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of
4 Southern Illinois, the Ainad Shriners, the Silver Lake Shrine
5 Club, the MI-CLI-BO Shrine Club, the Centralia Shrine Club, and
6 the Ainad Temple Nuts and Bolts Club; he was a sponsor at
7 Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children and a member of the
8 Eastern Star Trenton Chapter 756; he was also a member of the
9 New Baden Chamber of Commerce and the Clinton County Farm
10 Bureau; and

11 WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite was preceded in death by his wife,
12 Eleanor E. "Ellie", nee Schmidt, Harpstrite; his parents,
13 Benjamin A. and Ella M., nee Bassler, Harpstrite; his son,
14 James Benjamin Harpstrite; his great-grandson, Nathan
15 Lintzenich; his son-in-law, Dale Roy Zeller; his
16 brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Wilbur A. Schmidt, Jr.,
17 Robert Schmidt, Delores Provaznik, and Gladys and Walter
18 Pendracky; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Wilbur A. and
19 Emma M., nee Slavik, Schmidt, Sr.; and his step father-in-law,
20 William Masek; and

21 WHEREAS, Ben Harpstrite is survived by his children, Janice
22 L. (Michael) Hamilton, Karen S. (Mike) Riley, Cheryl A. (Rick)
23 Parkin, and Janine M. (Ed) Wuebbles; his grandchildren, Dawn M.
24 (Jim) Lintzenich, Ashley M. Hamilton, Jami S. (Jay) Staser,

1 Michael J. Riley, Rick L. Riley, Kyle A. (Kristy) Bingaman,
2 Jared J. (Kalena) Bingaman, Heidi L. (Tom) Kirchgerner, Craig
3 W. Parkin (fiancee, Lauren Momot), Melanie M. Wuebbles, and
4 Joshua J. Wuebbles; his great-grandchildren, Mikaela
5 Lintzenich, Caleb Lintzenich, Ethan Riley Lemberger, Olivia
6 Bingaman, Gryphon Kirchgerner, Aidan Hamilton, Destiny
7 Wuebbles, Kaitlyn Staser, Torre Parsons, Kolten Staser, Hunter
8 Parsons, Gabe Parkin, Logan Bingaman, and Payton Bingaman; his
9 brother, Howard D. Harpstrite (special friend, Jackie
10 Rickert); his brother-in-law, Frank Provaznik; his
11 sister-in-law, Kathy Schmidt; and his many nieces, nephews, and
12 cousins; 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 Ben
16 C. Harpstrite; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Ben Harpstrite as an expression of
19 our sympathy.