



HR1359

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize our former colleague, State
4 Representative Kevin McCarthy, and thank him for his many years
5 of service to the people of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy won his first election
7 for State representative of the southwest suburban 37th
8 District in 1996 by less than 900 votes in a hard-fought
9 campaign; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy received his bachelor's
11 degree from Chicago State University and a master's degree from
12 DePaul University; he began his career as a school teacher and
13 later went into the school supply business; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy prided himself on being a
15 full-time lawmaker who remained accessible to his constituents
16 and fought for their needs and concerns to improve local
17 communities and the southland; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy spent his time in public
19 service fighting to improve local schools, make higher
20 education more affordable, lower taxes for homeowners, and
21 assist the growing senior citizen population; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy succeeded in increasing
2 state funding for local schools and fought to pass an education
3 tax credit for parents with children in private and parochial
4 schools; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy led efforts to increase
6 education standards, fought to invest in early childhood
7 education, and advocated for lower class sizes so our children
8 have the competitive advantage needed to succeed; and

9 WHEREAS, As the chairman of the House Higher Education
10 Committee, Representative McCarthy consistently supported ways
11 to make higher education more accessible and affordable for
12 students, including greater funding for Monetary Award Program
13 (MAP) grants to help students in financial need pay for
14 college; he sponsored legislation creating the MAP Plus program
15 to provide financial assistance to college students who do not
16 qualify for other assistance programs; and

17 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy often took up challenging
18 and unpopular issues because he believed them to be in the best
19 interests of the State; he passed landmark pension reforms to
20 help end abuses and to help begin efforts to create long-term
21 stability of the pension system; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy kept a promise to be a
2 strong advocate for taxpayers by fighting to increase homestead
3 exemptions and other property tax assistance programs for all
4 homeowners, especially senior citizens and veterans; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative McCarthy owes much to the support
6 of his loving family, including his wife, Judy, and their 2
7 children, Amy and Kevin John, as well as his longtime friend
8 and office manager, Sue McGahan; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we congratulate and thank State Representative Kevin McCarthy
12 for his years of dedicated service; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Representative Kevin McCarthy as an expression of
15 our respect and esteem and with our best wishes for his future
16 success.