



HR0121

LRB098 10868 MST 41363 r

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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 Donald  
4 Sandidge of Alton, who passed away on February 17, 2013; and

5           WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was born on April 7, 1937, in  
6 Peoria to Thomas E. and Mary Ellen (Canaday) Sandidge; he  
7 graduated from Alton High School in 1956, playing quarterback  
8 in the 1955 and 1956 seasons and being his team's captain in  
9 1956; he lettered in both football and baseball; he served in  
10 the U.S. Marine Corps from 1958-1961 and earned the rank of  
11 sergeant; he married Sheri Whipple; and

12           WHEREAS, Following his military service, Donald Sandidge  
13 joined the Alton Police Department as a patrolman; he moved up  
14 the ranks to detective, chief of detectives, captain, and in  
15 1986 became chief of police and was named Commander of the  
16 Greater St. Louis Major Case Squad, becoming the only Illinois  
17 officer to command the squad; and

18           WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was a member of the Alton American  
19 Legion and a life member of VFW Post 1308; he served as  
20 treasurer of the Vietnam Memorial Committee, as a board member  
21 of the American Cancer Society and as a board member of the  
22 Salvation Army; he was a life member of the Southern Illinois

1 Police Chief's Association and a member of the Illinois  
2 Association of Chiefs of Police and the International  
3 Association of Chiefs of Police; he served as past president of  
4 the Alton Area boys Tackle Football Inc. and was a member of  
5 the K.C. Quarterback Club; and

6 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge continued his education  
7 throughout his life, earning a bachelor's degree in law  
8 enforcement and public administration from the University of  
9 Illinois-Springfield; he later graduated from the FBI National  
10 Academy at Quantico, Virginia; and

11 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge didn't slow down upon his  
12 retirement from law enforcement in 1989; he worked as a  
13 probation officer for Madison County and was elected mayor of  
14 Alton serving from 1997-2009; as mayor, he fixed Alton's  
15 infrastructure, repaved hundreds of miles of roads, demolished  
16 derelict houses, worked to attract good doctors, and to attract  
17 new businesses and developers to the community; he was inducted  
18 into Alton High School's Wall of Fame due to his over 50 years  
19 of public service; and

20 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was preceded in death by his  
21 parents; his brother, Thomas E. Sandidge Jr.; and his  
22 father-in-law, Dennis Whipple; and

1           WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge is survived by his wife of 51  
2 years, Sheri; his children, Dene Sandidge and Don E. (Leah)  
3 Sandidge II; his grandchildren, Chris Sullivan and Chandra and  
4 Donetta Sandidge; his mother-in-law, Golda Whipple; his aunt,  
5 Joann Ripper; his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Denny  
6 Dailey, Joy Whipple, Genell Mills, and Melody (John) Tigo; and  
7 his nieces, nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
10 we mourn the passing of Donald Sandidge, and we extend our  
11 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
12 and loved him; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to the family Donald Sandidge as an expression of our  
15 deepest sympathy.