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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, President Obama recently nominated Penny Pritzker  
3 to his cabinet for the position of U.S. Secretary of Commerce;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, In his nomination address, President Obama  
6 praised Penny Pritzker as one of our country's most  
7 distinguished business leaders, stating that she knows from  
8 experience that no government program alone can take the place  
9 of a great entrepreneur; he further stated that she understands  
10 that just as great companies strengthen the community around  
11 them, strong communities and skilled workers also help  
12 companies thrive; and

13           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker is an extraordinary civic and  
14 business leader who has more than 25 years of management  
15 experience in industries including real estate, finance, and  
16 hospitality; and

17           WHEREAS, President Obama previously appointed Penny  
18 Pritzker to the President's Council for Jobs and  
19 Competitiveness, which advises the administration on economic  
20 growth and job creation; she also served on the President's  
21 Economic Recovery Board to advise the administration on  
22 rebuilding the economy after the national recession; and

1           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker is a board member of the Council on  
2 Foreign Relations to help contribute ideas to U.S. foreign  
3 policy based on global trends; and

4           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker focused much of her civic work on  
5 public education; she is the advisory board chairman of Skills  
6 for America's Future, which brings together businesses and  
7 community colleges to create greater opportunities for  
8 students and prepare workers for 21st century jobs; and

9           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker is the past chair of the Chicago  
10 Public Education Fund to raise private equity funds to invest  
11 in public schools; and

12           WHEREAS, As co-founder and co-director of The Pritzker  
13 Traubert Family Foundation, Penny Pritzker worked to fund  
14 innovative initiatives in the City of Chicago to strengthen  
15 school leadership and improve public education, especially for  
16 children in impoverished communities; and

17           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker, in an effort to empower young  
18 women, was a founding board member of the Young Women's  
19 Leadership Charter School which seeks to ensure that young  
20 women have the skills, tools, and opportunities to develop as  
21 ethical leaders shaping their lives and the world; and

1           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker earned a bachelor of arts in  
2 economics at Harvard University, where she also enrolled in  
3 fine arts courses and developed a passion and appreciation for  
4 the history of art and architecture; she is the former chairman  
5 of the board of the Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art and  
6 currently serves as a trustee for the John F. Kennedy Center  
7 for the Performing Arts, and is a newly elected member of the  
8 American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and

9           WHEREAS, Penny Pritzker earned her juris doctor and masters  
10 in business administration at Stanford University, where she  
11 trained for and ran the Ironman Triathlon; she serves on the  
12 board of trustees at Stanford University, a world-class  
13 research and teaching institution; and

14           WHEREAS, After completing her education, Penny Pritzker  
15 entered the family business and paved the way for women both in  
16 her family and in the business world; having founded 5  
17 businesses during her career, she has continued to give back to  
18 the community; a devoted wife and mother of 2 children, she is  
19 a Chicago native who has devoted her career to giving back to  
20 the community; she maintains that throughout all of her success  
21 in business, she is most proud of her philanthropic efforts and  
22 relationship with her family; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3           we commend Penny Pritzker for her selfless efforts in improving  
4           the lives of others and congratulate her on her nomination for  
5           the position of U.S. Secretary of Commerce; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7           presented to Penny Pritzker as an expression of our esteem and  
8           respect.