



HR0531

LRB098 12807 MST 47294 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate David F. Vite on
4 his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the
5 Illinois Retail Merchants Association; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Retail Merchants Association is the
7 statewide professional organization for retailing and a voice
8 of the business community in State government, representing
9 more than 23,000 stores of all sizes and merchandise lines
10 across Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, David Vite joined the Illinois Retail Merchants
12 Association in 1978 as a Field Representative; during his
13 career with the Association, he held the positions of Manager
14 Member Relations, Vice President Government Affairs in 1981,
15 and Executive Vice President in 1983; in May 1985, he became
16 President; and

17 WHEREAS, As the Illinois Retail Merchants Association's
18 chief lobbyist, David Vite directed all legislative and
19 governmental affairs activities and served as liaison for
20 members of the Association with elected officials and
21 administrative, department, and agency representatives; he was
22 named "Best Business Lobbyist" by Crain's Chicago Business; and

1 WHEREAS, David Vite served as a member of the Employment
2 Security Advisory Board for more than 20 years and under 5
3 Illinois governors; he also served on the Workers' Compensation
4 Advisory Board and on the Board of Directors and Executive
5 Committee of the National Retail Federation for 2 years; he
6 chaired the National Association of State Retail Association
7 Executives for one term, and in 2002, he served as the Speaker
8 of the Illinois Third House; and

9 WHEREAS, David Vite has taken part in negotiations on some
10 of the most historic issues facing the State of Illinois; in
11 1988, he and the Illinois Retail Merchants Association helped
12 reform Illinois tax laws and, in 1997, he was chosen by the
13 Legislative Caucus Chairs to facilitate discussions on
14 electric deregulation, one of the State's most comprehensive
15 pieces of legislation in decades; and

16 WHEREAS, David Vite has devoted much of his life to serving
17 the public interest; he served on the school board of St.
18 Mary's Elementary School in Woodstock for 5 years and as
19 Chairman for 2 years; he spent 8 years on the Memorial Hospital
20 of McHenry County Board of Directors from 1989-1997, holding
21 the position of Board Chairman for 3 years; he also served on
22 the Centegra Health System Board of Directors for 2 years; and

1 WHEREAS, David Vite is a United States Army veteran; he and
2 his wife, Jane, have 2 daughters, Amanda and Gretchen; he is a
3 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse; and

4 WHEREAS, David Vite will be recognized by the Illinois
5 Retail Merchants Association as the "2013 Retailer of the Year"
6 at the Holiday Inn-Merchandise Mart in Chicago on September 18,
7 2013; 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 congratulate David F. Vite on his retirement from the
11 Illinois Retail Merchants Association after 35 years of
12 service, 28 of those years as President, and we wish him the
13 best in all his future endeavours; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to David Vite as an expression of our esteem and
16 respect.