



HR0863

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Heath Family on the  
4 occasion of the Heath Candy Company's 100th anniversary; and

5           WHEREAS, The rich history of Heath Candy started in early  
6 1914 when L.S. Heath was looking for a business for his 2 elder  
7 sons, Bayard and Everett (Skiv); The Heath Brothers  
8 Confectionery opened on January 7, 1914, where they sold  
9 fountain drinks, ice cream, and homemade candies; and

10           WHEREAS, Bayard and Skiv continued to expand their  
11 confectionary business by introducing new items, which proved  
12 to be very popular with their customers; they acquired a  
13 popular "Trail-Toffee" recipe from a Greek candy-maker in  
14 Champaign, and Bayard decided to develop it further; in 1928,  
15 after many months of trial and error, the brothers declared  
16 their formula for "English Toffee" to be "America's Finest",  
17 and dubbed it Heath English Toffee; and

18           WHEREAS, The confectionary was sold in 1931 and the  
19 brothers moved into the dairy industry with their father, but  
20 they continued creating candy in a small kitchen they built;  
21 the brothers had new delivery order forms printed to include an  
22 additional selection-"Heath English Toffee Bars"; when this

1 item was checked, the milk route driver left a box of the  
2 delicious candy along with the dairy needs; this simple  
3 marketing plan worked and the Heath English Toffee Bars grew in  
4 popularity as the market base grew; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1946, the company was incorporated, officially  
6 becoming L.S. Heath & Sons, Inc.; included in the original  
7 corporation were L.S. Heath and his 4 sons, along with his 2  
8 daughters, Ruby Heath Dowling and Mary Heath Morris, as well as  
9 the grandchildren living at that time; and

10 WHEREAS, The Heath family said farewell on January 24, 1989  
11 when L.S. Heath & Sons became a subsidiary of Leaf, Inc.; Leaf  
12 sold their North American operations in January of 1997 to  
13 Hershey Chocolate, U.S.A.; under the leadership of Hershey, the  
14 Robinson plant manufacturers a variety of candies including, of  
15 course, the original Heath English Toffee Bar; and

16 WHEREAS, The Heath Candy Company was, and still is, a vital  
17 part of the Robinson community; L.S. and his sons will forever  
18 serve as models of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the  
19 people in Robinson and the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
22 we congratulate the Heath Family on the occasion of the Heath

1 Candy Company's 100th anniversary; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
3 presented to Jack Morris, the last living Heath family member  
4 who was a full-time employee of the company serving as Chief  
5 Executive Officer and Chairman of the Heath Candy Company from  
6 1983-1989, as a symbol of our esteem and respect.