



HR0882

LRB098 20351 MST 56173 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of George Joe Pearson, who passed away on February 11, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Joe Pearson was born in Harrisburg on December 30, 1948; he earned his bachelor's degree and his masters's degree from Southern Illinois University and married Pamela Seright; and

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WHEREAS, In 1976, Joe Pearson opened the Village Pump Restaurant, Bar, and Hotel with his brother; he also opened Pearson Jewelry before joining the Arclar Company in 1987 and soon became the preeminent coal salesman in the United States; he was instrumental in seeing Arclar grow from 19 employees, producing 200,000 tons of coal per year, to 600 employees, producing 6,000,000 tons per year; he was also a partner in Power Inc., a coal loading facility in Shawneetown and served as President of Eagle River Coal LLC in Mitcheville; he served as Vice-Chairman of the Illinois Coal Association, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, board member of the Illinois Coal Council, and board member of the Illinois Coal Development Board; he was known around the Illinois State Capital as "the face of coal"; and

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1 WHEREAS, In addition to his work in coal, Joe Pearson
2 became part owner of Farmers State Bank in Alto Pass in 1994;
3 he aided its expansion to additional cities and remained on the
4 Board of Directors following the selling of his shares; and

5 WHEREAS, Joe Pearson was a member of the First United
6 Methodist Church; he provided scholarships and supported local
7 ball teams and was very supportive of his community; and

8 WHEREAS, Joe Pearson is survived by his wife, Pamela; his
9 brothers, John "Spider" (Pam) Pearson and Jim (Suzie) Pearson;
10 his niece, Stephanie (Gene) Wise; his great-nephew, Dillon
11 Wise; and his nephews, David (Kendra) Pearson and Mike Pearson;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we mourn the passing of George Joe Pearson, and extend our
16 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
17 and loved him; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Joe Pearson as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.