



HR1109

LRB098 21341 MST 59649 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 former
4 United States Ambassador to Norway and Quaker Oats Chief
5 Executive Officer Robert D. Stuart, Jr., who passed away on May
6 8, 2014 at the age of 98; and

7 WHEREAS, Robert Stuart, Jr. was born in 1916 in Hubbard
8 Woods and grew up just north of there in Lake Forest; he
9 graduated from the Los Alamos Ranch School in New Mexico and
10 then Princeton University in 1937; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1940, while attending Yale Law School, Robert
12 Stuart, Jr. began to become politically active by joining a
13 group of classmates that included future President Gerald Ford
14 and future Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, which became
15 the founding of the America First Committee; the America First
16 Committee disbanded shortly after the attacks on Pearl Harbor
17 in 1941, and he joined the Army as a field artillery officer,
18 serving 2 years overseas; and

19 WHEREAS, Robert Stuart, Jr. was discharged in 1946 with the
20 rank of Major and returned to law school at Yale; shortly after
21 graduating, he joined Quaker Oats, which was founded by his
22 grandfather, and led at the time by his father, R. Douglas

1 Stuart, and uncle, John Stuart; and

2 WHEREAS, Robert Stuart, Jr. stayed at Quaker Oats for 38
3 years, the last 15 serving as Chief Executive Officer; in 1984,
4 he stepped down from Quaker Oats, and was appointed by
5 President Ronald Reagan as the ambassador to Norway and served
6 from 1984 to 1989, during the declining years of the Cold War;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In the years following his time as U.S.
9 ambassador, Robert Stuart, Jr. served on the defense Base
10 Closure and Realignment Committee under Presidents George H.W.
11 Bush and Bill Clinton; he continued to stay active in local
12 politics, including his involvement with the Lake County
13 Republican Federation, which he co-founded in 1962; he was an
14 Illinois Republican Party committeeman from 1964 to 1972; and

15 WHEREAS, Robert Stuart Jr. is survived by his wife,
16 Lillian; sister, Margaret; son, James M. (Dianne) Stuart;
17 daughter, Marian S. Pillsbury; son, Alexander D. (Robin)
18 Stuart; daughter-in-law, Nancy M. Stuart; 8 grandchildren; 6
19 great-grandchildren; and numerous Norwegian stepchildren,
20 grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
2 Robert D. Stuart, Jr.; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Robert D. Stuart, Jr.
4 and remember his service as a U.S. ambassador, philanthropy,
5 business acumen, and political activism; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Robert Stuart as a symbol of our
8 sincere sympathy and gratitude for his service.