



HR1528

LRB099 24143 MST 51866 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to honor our esteemed colleague,
4 State Representative Jack D. Franks, on his 18 years as a
5 member of the Illinois General Assembly and thank him for his
6 dedicated service to our State and his community; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Franks was born and raised in
8 McHenry County, where he and his wife, Debby, chose to raise
9 their sons, Sam and Henry, first near Woodstock then returning
10 to his hometown of Marengo; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Franks sought to give back to the
12 community he loves by entering public service; he won his first
13 election to the House of Representatives in November of 1998 by
14 just 138 votes, becoming the first Democrat to win a major
15 office in McHenry County in nearly 20 years; and

16 WHEREAS, Representative Franks has served as a steady and
17 forceful voice for McHenry County taxpayers and their values,
18 demanding a more responsible, efficient, and ethical
19 government; and

20 WHEREAS, Representative Franks has worked with Democrats
21 and Republicans in pursuit of bipartisan compromise; his work

1 with colleagues from throughout the State has resulted in
2 positive reforms for the people of McHenry County and Illinois,
3 including laws that empower voters to consolidate unnecessary
4 and duplicative units of local government, hold corporations
5 accountable for use of taxpayer dollars, and help elderly
6 residents purchase expensive prescription drugs at lower
7 costs; and

8 WHEREAS, Always mindful of the needs of his local
9 communities, Representative Franks continuously fought for
10 schools and roads in McHenry County, including working to
11 secure grants for library and school construction, and funds to
12 improve major arteries such as U.S. Route 14 and Illinois
13 Routes 47 and 173; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Franks constantly fought for good
15 government, accountability, and transparency as Chairman of
16 the House State Government Administration Committee, where he
17 thoroughly vetted legislation while working to streamline
18 State government and holding government officials of both
19 political parties accountable; he initiated and spearheaded
20 the efforts to impeach former Gov. Rod Blagojevich and helped
21 to pass landmark ethics reforms; and

22 WHEREAS, Many in McHenry County have proudly displayed the
23 congratulatory certificates Representative Franks would

1 present to honor roll students from local elementary schools
2 and high schools; he sought to acknowledge students for their
3 success outside of the classroom with his "A For Effort"
4 awards; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Franks will depart the Illinois
6 General Assembly to continue his public service as the first
7 popularly elected Chairman of the McHenry County Board;
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 congratulate and honor State Representative Jack D. Franks for
12 his dedicated service as a member of the Illinois House of
13 Representatives; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Representative Franks as an expression of our
16 respect, esteem, and best wishes in his future endeavors.