

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to express their sincere condolences to
4 the family and friends of Dr. George E. Ross, who passed away
5 on February 15, 2002; and

6 WHEREAS, Born to Issac F. and Emma A. Ross on June 12,
7 1927 in St. Louis, Missouri, George E. Ross was a descendent
8 of many old-line Marion County families; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross lived in Sandoval, Champaign, Macomb,
10 and Springfield during his life and career; he received his
11 common education in Sandoval schools and earned his
12 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from the
13 University of Illinois; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross served as a teacher and principal in
15 Sandoval and Centralia City schools and was the past
16 president of the Centralia City School Teachers Association;
17 he served on the faculties of Greenville College, Western
18 Illinois University, and the University of Illinois; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross held administrative positions in the
20 Illinois Office of Education and the Illinois Department of
21 Children and Family Services; he was elected president of the
22 Higher Education Association of Western Illinois and served
23 as a director on the boards of the Illinois Elementary
24 Principal's Association, the Illinois Junior High Principal's
25 Association, the Illinois Child Care Association, and the
26 Illinois Welfare Association; he was appointed to the
27 Governor's Committee on Special Education and the Governor's
28 Regional Manpower Committee; in addition, Dr. Ross was the
29 co-creator of the Social Service Information System and the
30 Master Foster Parent Concept; and

31 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross was a renowned author, columnist,

1 historian, and speaker; he wrote "Centralia: A Pictorial
2 History" in his retirement; in addition, he authored a weekly
3 column called "A Peek at Our Past" which dealt with local
4 history which was carried for many years by the Centralia
5 Sentinel, the Salem Times-Commoner, and the Marion County
6 Crier; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross was a member of Kappa Delta Pi and Phi
8 Delta Kappa; he was the past president of the Marion County
9 Genealogical and Historical Society; he was a member of the
10 Illinois Genealogical Society, AARP, Lewis and Clark Chapter
11 of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the Centralia
12 Historical Society as a life member and on its board of
13 directors; in addition, he was a regular contributor to
14 Footprints in Marion County, and was named the Friend of
15 History by the Illinois Historical Society in 1992, and
16 served as the county historian; and

17 WHEREAS, A member of the Sandoval Christian Church, Dr.
18 Ross has served as Bible School Superintendent and as a
19 member of the board; he was a past exalted ruler and past
20 State chaplain of Elks, and past noble grand of Odd Fellows;
21 in addition, he was a member of the Moose; and and

22 WHEREAS, For the past 12 years, Dr. Ross served as
23 secretary of the Sandoval Community Development Corp.; he was
24 committed to the senior citizens of the area and found many
25 ways of working with them; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Ross was renowned for his knowledge of
27 Marion County history, his willingness to share his
28 knowledge, and his great sense of humor; and

29 WHEREAS, The passing of Dr. George A. Ross will be deeply
30 felt by all who knew and loved him, especially his brother,
31 Joe (Virginia) Ross; and his nephews and nieces, Michael
32 (Candi) Belcher, Joe (Maggie) Ross, David Ross, Tom (Susan)

1 Pockrandt, and Cathy (Michael) Nalewajka; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we mourn, along with all who knew him, the death of Dr.
5 George E. Ross of Sandoval, Illinois; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Dr. George E. Ross with our
8 sincere condolences.