



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Richard "Dick" Lusardi, currently superintendent  
3 at Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, has  
4 announced his retirement on June 3, 2005, following a 41-year  
5 federal career; and

6 WHEREAS, His strong experience dealing with historic  
7 structures and his fine record of building community support  
8 for park resources have been great assets throughout his  
9 38-year career with the National Park Service; and

10 WHEREAS, He has served as superintendent at Lincoln Home  
11 since April of 2003; he was chief of maintenance at the park  
12 from 1981 to 1988; the last major restoration of the Lincoln  
13 Home was during the years of 1987 and 1988; he served on the  
14 committee to select the contractor and worked closely with the  
15 NPS Denver Service Center to complete the extensive restoration  
16 project of the park's primary resource; and

17 WHEREAS, Under his direction as superintendent, Mr.  
18 Lusardi began the development of a new comprehensive general  
19 management plan and EIS for the site to replace the previous  
20 35-year-old master plan; his continued efforts for the overall  
21 restoration of the site have lead to the research development  
22 of a historic structures report for the reconstruction of the  
23 Burch and Carrigan Houses, ca. 1860, homes of two of Lincoln's  
24 closest neighbors; in July of 2004, he orchestrated the visit  
25 of the national flag exhibit to Springfield in which three  
26 American flags measuring 45 feet by 90 feet were placed on  
27 display at the site, with the official World War II flag being  
28 raised over the home; and

29 WHEREAS, Immediately preceding his return to Lincoln Home  
30 in 2003, he was superintendent at Wilson's Creek National  
31 Battlefield in Republic, Missouri; during his tenure at the

1 Civil War battle site, he provided guidance, direction, and  
2 leadership to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield  
3 Foundation, which resulted in completing a \$1.2 million  
4 fundraising campaign for the construction of a new  
5 8,235-square-foot Civil War research library and educational  
6 facility; he also led the park through the development of a new  
7 draft GMP and EIS; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Lusardi served as superintendent at Fort Scott  
9 National Historic Site in Fort Scott, Kansas, for three years  
10 following an eight-year stint as superintendent of Perry's  
11 Victory and International Peace Memorial in Put-in-Bay, Ohio;  
12 during his tenure at Fort Scott, he directed the development of  
13 an interpretive program with 16 wayside exhibits depicting the  
14 history of the fort, including the role of black education on  
15 the site; he was instrumental in bringing new events to the  
16 fort through collaboration and partnerships with community and  
17 business leaders; the park's first Armed Forces Day celebration  
18 recognizing all branches of the service and the appearance of  
19 the traveling Viet Nam Wall exhibit brought significant  
20 increases in visitation and visibility for the park; and

21 WHEREAS, Prior experience in maintenance and visitor  
22 protection activities included assignments at six other park  
23 sites: Martin Van Buren National Historic Site,  
24 Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Site, Statue of Liberty  
25 National Monument, Fire Island National Seashore, Taconic  
26 State Park, and Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, He and his wife, Diane, have four grown children  
29 and six grandchildren; therefore, be it

30 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
31 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
32 we commend Richard "Dick" Lusardi on his exemplary 41-year

1 federal career and wish him all the best in his retirement; and  
2 be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Richard "Dick" Lusardi as an expression of our  
5 admiration and esteem.