



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Centralia Business and Professional Women's
3 Club (BPW) will celebrate its 80th anniversary at a Guest Night
4 on April 12, 2006; and

5 WHEREAS, In January of 1926, a St. Louis attorney named
6 Martha Canole approached Erma McGuire and Mabel Barron, who
7 worked at the Merchant's State Bank, with a proposition to
8 network with the St. Louis Business and Professional Women's
9 Club, which originated out of the War Women's Work Council
10 during World War I; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. McGuire was the original president of the
12 Centralia Business and Professional Women; the club had 44
13 members that first year; they determined to work for
14 improvements in Centralia; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, the members of the club still work for the
16 same values, including equal civil rights, economic equality,
17 women's health care, and achieving equality for all women in
18 the workplace through advocacy and education; and

19 WHEREAS, Currently, the Centralia BPW Club sponsors a
20 Womenomics seminar; the Centralia High School (CHS) Nike Club,
21 Choices, and the Reality Store; grants scholarships to CHS
22 students; and members volunteer at the local recycling center,
23 and participate in Clean and Green projects, the Relay for
24 Life, and many other causes; therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
26 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
27 we congratulate Centralia's Business and Professional Women's
28 Club on the occasion of its 80th anniversary; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the club as an expression of our esteem.