



HR1419

LRB095 21775 GRL 51990 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, John Wood Community College is one of 39 public  
3 community college districts in the State of Illinois, with a  
4 credit enrollment each semester of more than 2,700 students and  
5 with a wide range of programs and services serving the area;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, John Wood Community College has a tremendous  
8 economic impact on the entire region, in addition to the  
9 individual students who benefit from a JWCC education; and

10           WHEREAS, William Simpson will retire as President of John  
11 Wood Community College in August of 2008 after 40 years in  
12 higher education; and

13           WHEREAS, William Simpson has served as President of John  
14 Wood Community College since February of 1997 and is currently  
15 one of the longest-serving community college presidents in  
16 Illinois; and

17           WHEREAS, Prior to his arrival at John Wood Community  
18 College, William Simpson served as Dean of Marshalltown  
19 Community College and as Vice President of Academic Affairs for  
20 the Iowa Valley Community College District; he was also  
21 employed in various positions at Olympic College in Bremerton,

1 Washington, Black Hawk College's East Campus in Kewanee, and  
2 Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg; and

3 WHEREAS, During Dr. Simpson's tenure at JWCC, student  
4 enrollment has grown by more than 20 percent, several new  
5 career programs have been added, and the Quincy campus has  
6 expanded from having only one building to a full-service campus  
7 with four primary academic buildings, plus the Student Activity  
8 Center and a maintenance building; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson has been active in professional and  
10 educational organizations on many levels, including the Board  
11 of Directors of the National Junior College Athletic  
12 Association and the Board of Trustees of Monmouth College; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson's commitment to the community college  
14 mission has earned him several awards, including two from Phi  
15 Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the Michael Bennett  
16 Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008 and the Shirley B. Gordon  
17 Award in 2006 for his outstanding efforts toward promoting the  
18 goals of Phi Theta Kappa; he was also the recipient of the  
19 NCJAA's Service Award for having made significant  
20 contributions to community college athletics on a national  
21 level; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson also has been very active in civic

1 organizations, having served on the Quincy Family YMCA Board  
2 and the Adams County United Way Board of Directors; he also  
3 served as President of the Rotary Club of Quincy; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson holds a doctor of education and a  
5 master of arts degree from Illinois State University and a  
6 bachelor of arts degree from Monmouth College; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson and his wife, Joyce Simpson, a retired  
8 educator with Quincy University, have two married daughters and  
9 two grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Simpson serves as a model of hard work,  
11 integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of  
12 Illinois; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 congratulate William Simpson on the occasion of his retirement  
16 and wish him continued success and happiness in the future; and  
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to William Simpson as a symbol of our esteem and  
20 respect.