



HR1245

LRB096 22306 KXB 41386 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to honor our friend and colleague,  
4 Illinois State Representative John Fritchey, for his many years  
5 of dedicated public service; and

6           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey was born at Barksdale Air  
7 Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana; he then moved to Chicago  
8 with his mother, where he attended grammar school and high  
9 school; he went on to earn his bachelor's degree in economics  
10 from the University of Michigan in 1986 before returning home  
11 to Chicago, where he earned his law degree from Northwestern  
12 University Law School in 1989; after law school, he became an  
13 Illinois Assistant Attorney General, representing the State in  
14 both State and federal courts; and

15           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has had a long and  
16 distinguished career with the Illinois House of  
17 Representatives since January of 1996; he has developed a  
18 reputation as a thoughtful and substantive legislator who  
19 always puts the wants and needs of his constituents first; he  
20 has served as Chairman of the Civil Judiciary Committee and  
21 Vice-Chairman of the Business & Occupational Licenses  
22 Committee; he has also served on the Financial Institutions,  
23 Insurance, and Mass Transit Committees, as well as the Joint

1 Committee on Administrative Rules; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has been a leader and  
3 sponsor of numerous pieces of ethics legislation; he was the  
4 chief sponsor and the main impetus of the pay-to-play ban that  
5 prohibits significant campaign contributions by companies  
6 bidding for large State contracts; he also sponsored and helped  
7 pass legislation that changed Illinois' procurement laws,  
8 insulating decisions from political influence, and expanded  
9 the Freedom of Information Act to create more transparency in  
10 government operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has sponsored legislation  
12 to improve the health and quality of life of the citizens of  
13 this State; he helped expand family health care programs to  
14 provide coverage for working families without access to medical  
15 care and expanded prescription drug coverage to seniors with  
16 low incomes through the State's Circuit Breaker program; and

17 WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has served as a proud  
18 champion of legislation that strengthens environmental  
19 preservation laws, expands protected wilderness areas, and  
20 increases investment in renewable energy; he was recently  
21 honored by the Illinois Environment Council for his 100% voting  
22 record on environmental issues that impact Illinois  
23 communities and resources; and

1           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has helped bring about  
2 substantive change in local matters; he co-sponsored and helped  
3 pass legislation that doubles the number of charter schools  
4 from 60 to 120; he was instrumental in passing legislation that  
5 reduced the Cook County veto override threshold down from a 4/5  
6 majority to a more democratic 3/5 majority; he also drafted and  
7 passed legislation requiring companies who receive TIF funds to  
8 return taxpayers money if they choose to close or relocate  
9 their business; and

10           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has consistently proven  
11 himself to be a stalwart defender of the rights of families  
12 homeowners, and taxpayers throughout the State; he has helped  
13 provide seniors and families with access to affordable and  
14 adequate health care, expanded educational opportunities, and  
15 helped bring about property tax and TIF reforms; and

16           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey is well known by his peers  
17 as the "new face of Chicago Democrats"; as a result of his  
18 effective leadership and centrist views, he was named by the  
19 national Democratic Leadership Council as one of the "100  
20 Rising Stars to Watch" in the country in 2000 and 2003; he has  
21 also been the recipient of countless awards for his service to  
22 his community and the people of this State; and

1           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey has taught as an adjunct  
2 lecturer in political science at Northwestern University; he is  
3 also involved with numerous civic organizations, local  
4 community groups, and chambers of commerce; and

5           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey is the founder of the John  
6 Fritchey Youth Foundation, an organization designed to create  
7 educational and recreational opportunities for local children  
8 through the sponsorship of academic and sports programs; and

9           WHEREAS, Representative Fritchey will be remembered fondly  
10 by the members of this body and the citizens of the State of  
11 Illinois for his forthright and compassionate efforts to  
12 improve the lives and livelihoods of every citizen and his  
13 tireless fight against the injustices of our society;  
14 therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
17 honor Illinois State Representative John Fritchey for his many  
18 years of dedicated service to the citizens of this State, thank  
19 him for his wonderful work in the Illinois House of  
20 Representatives, and wish him the best in his future endeavors;  
21 and be it further

22           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Illinois State Representative John Fritchey as a  
2 symbol of our great esteem and respect.