



HR1373

LRB096 23024 GRL 42561 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize Marilyn Flanagan,  
4 executive director of RRAF, Inc., in Lombard for her dedication  
5 to the continuation of the mission of RRAF; and

6           WHEREAS, Marilyn Flanagan's career is highlighted by over  
7 25 years of professional and managerial experience within the  
8 human services and computer fields with an education that  
9 includes a dual emphasis M.B.A.; she is particularly  
10 knowledgeable and skilled in Health Care Administration,  
11 Organizational Structuring, Non-Profit Management, Social  
12 Service Program Development, Non-Profit Reorganization, MIS  
13 Implementation, Construction Project Management, Accounting  
14 and Financial Management, Accessible Facilities Design, and  
15 Organizational Management; and

16           WHEREAS, Marilyn Flanagan became executive director of  
17 RRAF in 1991; as executive director, she is responsible for all  
18 operational management, program development, and  
19 implementation of the operations of RRAF, a non-profit  
20 corporation that provides services to individuals with  
21 developmental disabilities; and

22           WHEREAS, In her role as executive director of RRAF, Marilyn

1 Flanagan assumed full Executive Director responsibilities in  
2 May of 1991 upon the death of RRAF's founder; at that time,  
3 RRAF's census totaled 7, the agency was renting a 700  
4 square-foot classroom in an abandoned parochial school, and the  
5 agency budget was less than \$100,000; in 1997, she successfully  
6 brought both the Community Integrated Living Arrangement and  
7 Developmental Training programs to 100% compliance; and

8 WHEREAS, As her role as executive director, Marilyn  
9 Flanagan negotiated and closed the acquisition of RRAF's  
10 permanent home by the purchase of 613 South Main Street in  
11 Lombard on January 5, 2001; she also coordinated the  
12 involvement of contracted and volunteer help for a total  
13 demolition and rebuilding of the interior of the building,  
14 bringing the building to a maximum capacity of 24 peers; and

15 WHEREAS, Marilyn Flanagan has recently worked tirelessly  
16 to keep RRAF's financial picture strong, even while weathering  
17 the strains of a difficult State and nationwide economic  
18 crisis; as part of this situation, RRAF has been owed  
19 \$80,000-\$100,000 from the State of Illinois, yet has still been  
20 able to obtain grants and, with the help of fundraising efforts  
21 of the families served by RRAF, raise the annual amounts raised  
22 from less than \$10,000 in 1995 to current levels around \$30,000  
23 per year; during this time, she has also worked to diligently  
24 to maintain community donor relationships, which has allowed

1 ongoing annual support from many organizations; and

2 WHEREAS, As a result of the loss of income from the State  
3 of Illinois, Marilyn Flanagan has forgone her annual salary for  
4 the sake of the survival of RRAF; thanks in part to her  
5 efforts, RRAF has managed to stay in business to support the  
6 mission; and

7 WHEREAS, Marilyn Flanagan serves as a model of commitment  
8 and dedication to her community and the people she serves in  
9 the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 recognize the exceptional character and leadership of Marilyn  
13 Flanagan in her role as director of RRAF and wish her continued  
14 success in her lifelong dedication to humanity; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to Marilyn Flanagan as a symbol of our esteem and  
18 respect.