



HR1551

LRB096 24551 GRL 44372 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate and thank Illinois State
4 Representative Michael K. Smith for his 16 years of service on
5 behalf of the people of the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Smith was first elected to the
7 Illinois House of Representatives in 1994; he served as a
8 tireless advocate for the 91st District in a variety of
9 positions, including Chairman of the House Committee on
10 Elementary and Secondary Education and the House Committee on
11 Elementary and Secondary Education-Appropriations; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Smith is one of the State's leading
13 voices on education issues and improving the public school
14 system, having brought back millions of dollars in school
15 funding for local schools and community colleges; he also
16 helped revamp State graduation standards and address the
17 pressing issues of school safety and early childhood education;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has always been a strong
20 voice for the working men and women of his district; during his
21 tenure, he has secured hundreds of millions of dollars for
22 job-creating infrastructure improvement projects in the heart

1 of Illinois, including vital work on Interstates 74 and 474 and
2 the creation, expansion, and repair of many county, State, and
3 U.S. highways throughout the 91st District; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has consistently defended
5 consumers, having secured over one billion dollars in rate
6 relief for electric ratepayers and championing new laws to
7 fight identity theft; he also worked to educate his
8 constituents on how they can better protect themselves against
9 scam artists, and he served as a Citizen Advocate for the
10 Illinois Attorney General before becoming a legislator; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has earned a reputation as a
12 strong defender of local workers by supporting efforts to boost
13 the local manufacturing industry and keep jobs in Central
14 Illinois; he backed a tax fairness plan that would provide
15 vital tax relief to middle-class families and pushed for
16 policies that invest in new, cutting-edge alternative energy
17 facilities; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has been identified as a
19 leader in the fight against methamphetamine in downstate
20 Illinois; he has sponsored one of the nation's toughest
21 anti-meth laws; he also created tougher punishments for meth
22 manufacturing and facilitated valuable interaction between
23 constituents and members of law enforcement; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has worked hard to improve
2 the quality of life for Illinois' senior citizens; he backed
3 the creation of the Circuit Breaker/Pharmaceutical Assistance
4 program and secured substantial property tax relief for older
5 adults and disabled veterans; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Smith has always voted with his
7 district's values in mind; he is a staunch defender of the
8 Second Amendment and has ensured that Central Illinois always
9 received its fair share of State funding; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his chairmanship of the Elementary
11 and Secondary Education Committee, Representative Smith served
12 as a member of many committees during his tenure in the House,
13 including the Environment and Energy, Financial Institutions,
14 Fire Protection, Homeland Security, Personnel and Pensions,
15 and State Government Administration committees; he previously
16 served as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee; and

17 WHEREAS, As a full-time legislator, Representative Smith
18 has served his constituents with distinction, often returning
19 home to his district on session days in order to be with his
20 wife, Donna, and attend community functions; and

21 WHEREAS, Representative Smith will be truly missed by his

1 colleagues, who widely regard him as one of the kindest and
2 most thoughtful members of the General Assembly; therefore, be
3 it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 congratulate and thank Illinois State Representative Michael
7 K. Smith for his years of dedicated service; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to Representative Michael K. Smith as a token of our
10 respect and esteem and with our best wishes for his future
11 success.