



HR0507

LRB097 13025 KXB 57530 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Fire
4 Chief Emeritus Paul H. Boecker of the Lisle-Woodridge Fire
5 District, who passed away on August 14, 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, Chief Boecker began his career with the Naperville
7 Fire Department in 1952; he left there as a Captain to become
8 the Chief of the Lisle Fire Department in 1971; he was
9 instrumental in turning the volunteer fire department into a
10 full-time paid fire district during his tenure; and

11 WHEREAS, His guidance expanded the fire district to 5 fire
12 stations and more than 80 personnel; under his leadership, the
13 fire district attained an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class
14 1 designation before his retirement in 1994; and

15 WHEREAS, During his career he received 9 Awards of
16 Commendation, 4 Awards of Merit, and the coveted Firefighter of
17 the Year Award in 1993 from the fire district, and he was named
18 Employee of the Year in Woodridge; during the devastating
19 tornado that struck Plainfield in 1990, Chief Boecker's efforts
20 were noteworthy and he was one of 12 recipients of recognition
21 for his outstanding leadership following the tornado; in 1983,
22 he was one of 2 Chiefs honored with the Dictograph Security

1 Company "Public Safety Award"; and

2 WHEREAS, He was awarded the "Mason Lankford" fire service
3 award, which was named after a personal friend; Chief Boecker
4 served on several regional and national committees throughout
5 his career and received many awards along the way; in 1954, he
6 began the "Keep the Wreath Red" program, later adopted by
7 DuPage County, and eventually recognized by the State of
8 Illinois; he served as a charter member of the Educational
9 Research Foundation for the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
10 and as their President in 1980; in 1982 he was named as the
11 Fire Chief of the Year in Illinois; and

12 WHEREAS, He served as a Field Instructor for the Illinois
13 Fire Service Institute for more than 30 years and was the
14 Chairman of the Illinois Fire College from 1972 until 1996; he
15 served as a Co-Chairman for the Illinois Fire Chiefs
16 Association Firefighter Funeral Committee; he was also a
17 Founding Member, Director, and President of the DuPage Hundred
18 Club, which provides benefits and support to spouses and
19 families of fire and police officers who have lost their lives
20 in the line-of-duty; Chief Boecker also served on a national
21 level in various capacities with the National Fire Academy,
22 International Fire Chiefs, Federal Management Emergency
23 Agency, and several other fire schools; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Boecker is survived by his wife, Sonja J.
2 Boecker (Sinclair); his son, Paul H. Boecker III and his wife,
3 Nancy (Martin) and their 2 children, Paul H. Boecker IV and
4 John J. Boecker; his son, Alex J. Boecker and his wife, Krissie
5 (Kegaly) and their son, Alex J. Boecker Jr.; and his sister,
6 Ann S. Boecker; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we mourn, along with his friends, family, fellow firefighters,
10 and a grateful community, the passing of Chief Boecker; and be
11 it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Fire Chief Paul Boecker as a symbol
14 of our sincere sympathy and respect.