



HR0010

LRB098 05521 GRL 35556 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the citizens and
4 officials of the City of Aurora for having a zero murder rate
5 during the 2012 calendar year; and

6 WHEREAS, The City of Aurora has not had a full calendar
7 year without a recorded murder since 1946, when Aurora's
8 population was about 48,000 people; the presence of a
9 world-class police force that works with community groups, city
10 leaders, and law enforcement agencies has led to a significant
11 decline in major crime rates over the past decade, even as the
12 city's population grew to 199,672, making it Illinois' second
13 largest city; and

14 WHEREAS, In an effort to combat gang violence, the City of
15 Aurora has established many community partnerships with
16 neighborhood groups and community organizations to discuss
17 what could be done to reduce crime; these partnerships have
18 resulted in more engaged residents that are more apt to report
19 suspicious activity to police and, as a result, a greater
20 number of arrests and prosecutions in the city; the Aurora
21 Police Department has also gained assistance from the FBI, the
22 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and other
23 federal agencies to conduct RICO investigations into drug and

1 weapons cases, resulting in federal charges that have put more
2 than 130 gang members behind bars; and

3 WHEREAS, Leaders, community groups, and taxpayers in the
4 City of Aurora have supported initiatives that have resulted in
5 the investment of millions of dollars in the Aurora Police
6 Department and have given Aurora police officers the advanced
7 tools and technology they needed to fight crime in the 21st
8 century, including a new state-of-the-art police headquarters;
9 additionally, all city government employees have been
10 challenged to find ways to support the city-wide goal of
11 reducing crime, from removing graffiti and fixing broken
12 streetlights during working hours to reporting suspicious
13 activity and broken windows; all City departments now work in
14 tandem to keep crime down in the city; and

15 WHEREAS, This concerted effort by citizens, elected
16 officials, and law enforcement to fight crime in Aurora is
17 worthy of the greatest respect and serves as a model for other
18 communities; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
21 we congratulate the citizens and officials of the City of
22 Aurora for having a zero murder rate during the 2012 calendar
23 year and wish them continued success in their law enforcement

1 efforts in the future; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the City of Aurora as a symbol of our esteem and
4 respect.