



HR1455

LRB099 23793 GRL 51311 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Walter Leon Russell and
4 Janet Ann Russell on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of
5 their company, Russell Oil Company-ROC One Stop, in November of
6 2016 and their 60th wedding anniversary on December 23, 2016;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Leon and Janet Russell met at World Burger at Fort
9 Smith, where Janet worked during high school and Leon was
10 stationed at Fort Chaffee; they were married on December 23,
11 1956 at the family home of Earl and Eva Crouch in Fort Smith,
12 Arkansas; and

13 WHEREAS, After getting married, Leon and Janet Russell
14 moved to Leon's hometown of Galatia and started a family and
15 farming; during this period, Leon earned his bachelor's degree
16 in forestry at Southern Illinois University Carbondale; after
17 graduation, Leon worked in forestry in Illinois, Oregon, and
18 Indiana; he also worked for Dolly Madison Furniture in Alabama
19 and Indiana; and

20 WHEREAS, In November of 1971, Leon and Janet Russell
21 purchased a store in Galatia which offered gas, groceries, and
22 minor auto repairs; the store had an apartment where they and

1 their children lived for several years; over the years, the
2 company grew and now consists of locations throughout southern
3 Illinois; they and their children Mary and Jonathan operate the
4 ROC One Stop chain of convenience stores (14 locations),
5 Harrisburg Furniture, Eldorado Hardware, Eldorado Spirits,
6 Downtown Auto Sales/Piney Woods Cabins, and ROC Rentals; Janet
7 has always been active in the business in addition to raising
8 her children, teaching Sunday school, gardening, and
9 participating in various civic organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, Leon and Janet Russell have four children, James
11 Russell (deceased), Mary Beth Finley, Susan Oxford, and
12 Jonathan Russell; 14 grandchildren; and 14
13 great-grandchildren; and

14 WHEREAS, Leon and Janet Russell serve as models of hard
15 work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of
16 Illinois; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 congratulate Walter Leon Russell and Janet Ann Russell on the
20 occasion of the 45th anniversary of their company and their
21 60th wedding anniversary and wish them continued success and
22 happiness in the future; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Leon and Janet Russell as a symbol of our esteem
3 and respect.