



HR1469

LRB099 23906 GRL 51443 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate William "Bill" McCartney
4 on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the
5 Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Association; and

6 WHEREAS, William McCartney is a lifelong resident of
7 Illinois and has contributed innumerable hours and in countless
8 ways to enhance the quality of life for people in our State,
9 especially in and around his beloved hometown of Pittsfield;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, William McCartney graduated from Argenta High
12 School in 1955 and graduated from the University of Illinois at
13 Urbana-Champaign in 1960 with a degree in agriculture; his
14 involvement in soil and water conservation and the Illinois
15 Grape Growers and Vintners Association were natural outlets for
16 his concern for preserving and protecting natural resources and
17 for responsibly enjoying the delicious fruit which Illinois
18 soil can produce; and

19 WHEREAS, William McCartney was chosen by his colleagues,
20 peers, and employers for leadership positions in the United
21 States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service and
22 various resource conservation and development programs in

1 numerous counties in western Illinois; he was later selected as
2 Executive Director of the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners
3 Association, where he has been at the forefront of the first
4 significant and successful efforts to partner with the State
5 and provide resources to the industry which has helped grow the
6 wine business in Illinois from a few isolated wineries and
7 growers in the mid-1980s; now, over 100 wineries and hundreds
8 of acres of grapes are thriving in Illinois from border to
9 border and river to river; and

10 WHEREAS, William McCartney has been fortunate to raise four
11 adult children, Martin Sean McCartney (deceased), Jeffery
12 Scott McCartney, Leslie McCartney Ivers, and David William
13 McCartney, and has been a cherished companion of his wife
14 Phyllis; and

15 WHEREAS, William McCartney has found time to be a
16 dependable and valuable member of the Pittsfield Masonic Lodge,
17 the Pike County Shrine Club, the Loyal Order of the Moose in
18 Pittsfield, and many other volunteer and community
19 organizations which have benefitted from his involvement; and

20 WHEREAS, William McCartney retired from the day-to-day
21 operations of the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners
22 Association, but remains a valuable resource for members of the
23 industry and members of the Illinois General Assembly alike;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, William McCartney's retirement gives him more
3 opportunities to play golf and enjoy a good glass of Illinois
4 wine; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
7 congratulate William "Bill" McCartney on the occasion of his
8 retirement as Executive Director of the Illinois Grape Growers
9 and Vintners Association and thank him for his devoted service
10 to his community, his State, and his nation and for playing
11 such a key role in the development of this vital Illinois
12 industry; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
14 provided to Bill McCartney, his family, and the Illinois Grape
15 Growers and Vintners Association so that his contributions may
16 be forever remembered.