

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are honored to recognize notable achievements  
4 in the lives of the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Michael J.  
6 Vinciguerra assumed the duties as the eighth president of the  
7 University of St. Francis on June 1, 2002; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Vinciguerra served as acting president for  
9 State University of New York at Farmingdale; he began his  
10 career there in 1970 and has held the positions of professor,  
11 vice president for academic affairs, and provost; he led the  
12 college in its transformation from a two-year to a four-year  
13 baccalaureate institution; and

14 WHEREAS, While at Farmingdale, Mr. Vinciguerra was  
15 instrumental in the creation of a campus Bioscience Park in  
16 collaboration with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and OSI  
17 Pharmaceutical, a leading biotechnology company; a Solar  
18 Energy Center in partnership with local utilities and  
19 industry was also begun under his leadership; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Vinciguerra's experience extends to the  
21 initiation of a campus-wide outcomes assessment program to  
22 pursue continuous improvement in programs and services as  
23 well as to extensive dealings in fiscal and enrollment  
24 management; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Vinciguerra is a graduate of Iona College in  
26 New Rochelle, New York with a degree in chemistry and holds a  
27 master of science degree and a Ph.D. in physical chemistry  
28 from Adelphi University; and

29 WHEREAS, The University of St. Francis serves more than  
30 4,300 undergraduate and graduate students nationwide,  
31 including some 1,500 at its main campus in Joliet; the

1 remaining students, mostly health care professionals,  
2 experience the University of St. Francis through off-site or  
3 online classes; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Vinciguerra assumed the presidency from  
5 James A. Doppke, who retired on May 31, 2002 after a 40-year  
6 career in higher education; Mr. Doppke served for 13 years at  
7 the University of St. Francis, and was appointed president in  
8 1996; and

9 WHEREAS, The Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate  
10 founded the University of St. Francis in 1920; the  
11 congregation and university recently adopted a new  
12 sponsorship agreement that provides for stronger connection  
13 and a renewed commitment to mission and heritage; and

14 WHEREAS, The University of St. Francis, at 500 Wilcox St.  
15 in Joliet, offers more than 60 areas of undergraduate study  
16 in arts and sciences, education, nursing, business, computer  
17 science and professional arts; nine graduate programs are  
18 offered in business, education and health care; a national  
19 leader in offering educational opportunities to health care  
20 professionals, the university also offers a master's degree  
21 in physician assistant studies in Albuquerque, New Mexico;  
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
24 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
25 we wish Michael J. Vinciguerra well as he assumes his duties  
26 as the eighth president of the University of St. Francis; and  
27 be it further

28 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
29 presented to Michael J. Vinciguerra as an expression of our  
30 esteem.