

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize milestone events in
4 the lives of the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that at the end of
6 July 2001, General Manager Francis M. Rees will be ending his
7 18-year tenure with the Salem Times-Commoner; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Rees came to the Salem Times-Commoner as a
9 sales representative in February 1983; in December 1984, he
10 was named general manager; in addition to his duties as
11 general manager, he also edited the editorial page and wrote
12 "Business Bits"; and

13 WHEREAS, Prior to his tenure with the Salem
14 Times-Commoner, Mr. Rees served for 19 years with The Journal
15 newspapers of St. Louis as advertising manager and publisher,
16 a year as account executive with a St. Louis advertising
17 agency, and 6 years in broadcasting; in addition, he served
18 for 5 years as a lecturer at St. Louis University, where he
19 graduated in 1951; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Rees will be remembered for his alertness
21 for material and his ability to work not only with the staff
22 of the Salem Times-Commoner, but also its readers and the
23 Salem community; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Rees is a member of the Illinois Press
25 Foundation Board and a charter member of the Illinois Press
26 Association Advertising Steering Committee, which sets up
27 yearly conventions and workshops for advertising
28 representatives that have become an important catalyst for
29 Illinois newspapers to grow and compete in the changing
30 market; and

31 WHEREAS, Mr. Rees has been a member of St. Theresa

1 Catholic Church and served as both a board member and chamber
2 president of the Salem Chamber of Commerce; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Rees will be spending his retirement with
4 his family, who includes his wife, Louise, and their 12
5 children; in August 2001, he will be traveling to Buffalo,
6 New York for a reunion with other World War II Navy veterans
7 who served aboard the U.S.S. Guam; and

8 WHEREAS, The staff at the Salem Times-Commoner recently
9 honored Francis Rees at a luncheon, at which he received a
10 farewell gift and scrapbook with highlights of his 18-year
11 tenure, as well as special memories written by friends;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we congratulate Francis M. Rees on his retirement as General
16 Manager of the Salem Times-Commoner and we wish him well in
17 all of his future endeavors; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to Francis M. Rees as an expression of our esteem.