



HR0268

LRB104 13225 ECR 25394 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of William  
4 F. "Bill" Murphy Jr., the former Mayor of the Village of  
5 Woodridge, who passed away on March 30, 2025; and

6           WHEREAS, William Murphy, the son of Dr. William Murphy and  
7 Agnes Murphy, graduated from Immaculate Conception Grade  
8 School in Elmhurst, Illinois, St. Bede Academy in Peru,  
9 Illinois, and St. Joseph's College in Collegeville, Indiana;  
10 he received a master's degree in education administration and  
11 supervision from Roosevelt University; and

12           WHEREAS, William Murphy began his career in education with  
13 Chicago Public Schools, where he worked for five years; he  
14 proceeded to work for Woodridge School District 68, where he  
15 served as a principal for five years and then as assistant  
16 superintendent for personnel, a position he held for 29 years;  
17 he retired in 2004 after 34 years of service; in retirement, he  
18 received the distinction of the Woodridge School District 68  
19 Board of Education renaming the Woodridge Elementary School as  
20 the William F. Murphy Elementary School to honor his service  
21 to the school district and the community; and

22           WHEREAS, William Murphy was the longest-serving mayor in

1 DuPage County; he was first elected as a village trustee to the  
2 Woodridge Village Board in 1973, serving for two four-year  
3 terms; he was then elected mayor in 1981; he was reelected  
4 seven times, serving a total of 32 years as mayor before  
5 stepping down in April 2013; and

6 WHEREAS, William Murphy was an active participant in  
7 local, regional, and national organizations, including serving  
8 as a two-time president of the DuPage Mayors and Managers  
9 Conference, as president of the Illinois Municipal League, as  
10 vice-chair of the Illinois International Port District, as a  
11 member of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and as a member of the  
12 National League of Cities Board of Directors and Advisory  
13 Council; and

14 WHEREAS, William Murphy dedicated his professional and  
15 personal life to serving the needs of the most vulnerable  
16 members of the community; he established the ProLogis Fund,  
17 which awards scholarships and grants annually to Woodridge  
18 High School graduates to help with college expenses; he also  
19 supported charitable initiatives, including the Woodridge  
20 Golden Years program, the Woodridge Community Resource Center,  
21 the Diversity Committee, and Support Our Troops; he formed the  
22 Quality Community Task Force to address the needs of local  
23 neighborhoods, and he was a champion of diversity initiatives,  
24 serving as a board member for the Community Pantry; he also

1 sponsored the Robert Shields Memorial fundraiser and  
2 contributed to St. Scholastica Catholic Church in various  
3 roles, including as a longtime usher and a member of the  
4 Finance Committee; and

5 WHEREAS, William Murphy devoted more than 50 years to  
6 public service, including his 32 years as mayor, resulting in  
7 periods of transformation and progress for Woodridge; during  
8 his tenure, his selfless and compassionate leadership and  
9 vision in championing the Woodridge community became  
10 legendary, and he served as a mentor to many mayors, sharing  
11 his insights on how to build communities and be an effective  
12 leader and advocate; and

13 WHEREAS, William Murphy was the husband of Liz (Campbell)  
14 Murphy for over 58 years; the father of Jennifer (Larry)  
15 Lawson, Lisa (Doug) Young, William Murphy III, and Colleen  
16 (Tom) Bosche; the grandfather of six; the brother of Timothy,  
17 Anne Schiller, Jane Wangler, Mary Hauert, Charles Murphy, and  
18 Peggy Grobe; and the relative of many brothers-in-law,  
19 sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins; and

20 WHEREAS, William Murphy was a lifelong, exemplary public  
21 servant whose legacy will live on through the Woodridge  
22 Village Hall at 5 Plaza Drive in Woodridge being renamed as the  
23 William F. Murphy Jr. Village Hall in honor of his service to

1 the community and residents of Woodridge, which will be  
2 dedicated on April 25, 2025; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
5 we mourn the passing of William F. "Bill" Murphy Jr., the  
6 former Mayor of the Village of Woodridge, and extend our  
7 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
8 and loved him; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
10 presented to the family of William Murphy and the Village of  
11 Woodridge as an expression of our deepest sympathy.