



HR0477

LRB104 15483 LAW 28643 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Deborah Humphrey on the  
4 occasion of her retirement as executive director of the  
5 Madison County Mental Health Board; and

6           WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey began her distinguished career  
7 in behavioral health after earning her Bachelor of Science in  
8 Nursing from Olivet Nazarene University in 1981, with an early  
9 goal of becoming a bilingual nurse, and she later obtained her  
10 Master of Business Administration from Lindenwood University  
11 in 2011; and

12           WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey started her professional journey  
13 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, where she worked from  
14 1976 to 1980, during which she oversaw a locked children's  
15 unit, supervised a 24-bed adult inpatient unit and  
16 interdisciplinary clinical team, conducted medical rounds and  
17 consultations with psychiatrists, developed treatment plans,  
18 and provided individual, group, and family counseling, as well  
19 as emergency psychiatric evaluations; and

20           WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey, after taking time to raise her  
21 son, Aaron, resumed her career to work at Call for Help from  
22 1985 to 2000, where she directed operations for two behavioral

1 health programs, managed fiscal responsibilities, including  
2 grant funding and budgeting, developed policies and  
3 procedures, and supervised professional staff, interns, and  
4 volunteers; she next served as associate director of the St.  
5 Clair County Mental Health Board from 2000 to 2019, playing a  
6 key role in advancing behavioral health services in the  
7 region; and

8 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey became executive director of the  
9 Madison County Mental Health Board in 2019, culminating in a  
10 remarkable 45-year career in behavioral health, including 25  
11 years of dedicated service to mental health boards; during her  
12 tenure, she provided exemplary leadership, administering  
13 critical funding to substance use providers and, most  
14 recently, overseeing the allocation of opioid settlement  
15 funding appropriated to the board by the Madison County  
16 State's Attorney's Office in 2024; that same year, she also  
17 established the Madison County Mental Health Board's Champion  
18 for Mental Health Scholarship; and

19 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has belonged to the Association  
20 of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois (ACMHAI)  
21 for several years, representing and advocating for mental  
22 health authorities throughout Illinois; she previously served  
23 as president from 2017 to 2018, and she currently serves as  
24 co-chair of the ACMHAI Children's Behavioral Health Committee;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has been commissioned by the  
3 Governor to serve on the Illinois Children's Mental Health  
4 Partnership, receiving gubernatorial appointments in 2013 and  
5 2023, and has also served on the Community Emergency Services  
6 and Support Act (CESSA) Region 4 Advisory Council and the  
7 Illinois Social Service Advisory Council, contributing her  
8 expertise to statewide policy and program development; and

9 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has been an active member of the  
10 Partnership for Drug-Free Communities and the Metro East  
11 Recovery Council-ROSC (Recovery-Oriented System of Care), and  
12 she has chaired two countywide suicide prevention alliances,  
13 demonstrating her commitment to addressing behavioral health  
14 issues and suicide prevention at the community level; and

15 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has also served on the Southern  
16 Illinois University Edwardsville School of Social Work Board,  
17 the Lewis & Clark Community College Human Services Advisory  
18 Committee, and numerous other local boards, advisory councils,  
19 committees, and workgroups to advance and enhance behavioral  
20 health services in the Metro East region; and

21 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey's leadership has extended into  
22 the criminal justice system through program administration for

1 the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Court's Juvenile Redeploy  
2 Illinois pilot in 2005, where she was a pioneer at one of the  
3 State's first pilot sites, and the Adult Redeploy pilot in  
4 2009; she was also appointed by the St. Clair County State's  
5 Attorney to serve on the St. Clair County Juvenile Justice  
6 Council, and she currently serves as chair of the Madison  
7 County Juvenile Justice Council; and

8 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has been a consultant,  
9 contractor, author, and co-author of criminal justice grants  
10 for several Illinois jurisdictions, assisting in the planning  
11 and implementation of problem-solving mental health, drug, and  
12 veteran courts; she previously served in disaster relief  
13 efforts following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, supporting  
14 Illinois' coordinated response to assist displaced victims,  
15 and she has contributed to public awareness and education as  
16 an editorial columnist for The Edwardsville Intelligencer,  
17 using her platform to raise awareness of behavioral health  
18 issues; and

19 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey has been recognized with  
20 numerous awards and honors, including being named in the  
21 YWCA's Salute to Women in 1997, as Public Citizen of the Year  
22 by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Illinois  
23 Chapter in 2006, and as an Advisory Council Leadership Honoree  
24 by the Karla Smith Foundation in 2011, and she has received the

1 Award of Appreciation from the St. Clair County Youth  
2 Coalition in 2002, the Appreciation Award for Distinguished  
3 Support from the Mental Health Association of Greater Chicago  
4 in 2009, the Appreciation Award for Collaborative Support from  
5 the St. Clair County Board & Health Care Commission in 2011,  
6 and the Champion for Children's Award by Children's Home & Aid  
7 Society in 2018; and

8 WHEREAS, Beyond her professional achievements, Deborah  
9 Humphrey and her husband have been the primary guardians of  
10 their twin grandsons, both of whom excel academically and in  
11 extracurricular pursuits, including theater and wrestling, and  
12 embody the values of hard work and dedication that she has  
13 modeled throughout her career; and

14 WHEREAS, Deborah Humphrey's legacy is marked by her  
15 unwavering dedication, visionary leadership, and tireless  
16 advocacy for behavioral health, criminal justice reform, and  
17 community well-being; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
19 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
20 we congratulate Deborah Humphrey on her retirement as  
21 executive director of the Madison County Mental Health Board,  
22 thank her for her decades of extraordinary service and  
23 leadership to the people of Madison County and the State of

1 Illinois, and wish her continued success and happiness in all  
2 of her future endeavors; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Deborah Humphrey as an expression of our esteem  
5 and respect.