



HR0534

LRB104 16056 MST 29326 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Jeff Kolbus of Edwards on
4 being elected the 2025 president-elect of the Illinois
5 Realtors Association; and

6 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and
7 earned his bachelor's degree from Indiana University; he
8 married Wendy Wilkins and, a few years later, began working
9 for his new father-in-law, the proud parent of a third
10 generation realtor in the Peoria area; he and his wife are the
11 parents of two adult sons, Michael and Nick; and

12 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus began his real estate career in 1994
13 and took the reins of Traders Realty in 2011, which he helped
14 develop into one of the largest and most respected real estate
15 companies in central Illinois; he is a member of the Peoria
16 Area Association of Realtors (PAAR) and served as its
17 president in 2002; and

18 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus became the new RE/MAX president in
19 2015 when the 50 agents at Traders Reality combined forces
20 with the 72 RE/MAX agents to form the largest real estate
21 agency in the area in terms of listings sold; and

1 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus, exemplifying service to his
2 industry, has served on Illinois Realtor Committees and has
3 chaired the Finance Committee, Public Policy Forum, Realtors
4 Political Action Committee, Business Issues-License Law
5 Working Group, and Technology Working Group; and

6 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus has taken a strong leadership role
7 and has served multiple terms on the Illinois Association of
8 Realtors Board of Directors; in 2014, he graduated from the
9 Illinois Association of Realtors Leadership Development
10 Program; and

11 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus has been a longtime contributor to
12 the Realtors Political Action Committee (RPAC) and was
13 inducted into the RPAC Hall of Fame in 2023 with an aggregate
14 lifetime investment of at least \$25,000; he also served on the
15 National Association of Realtors (NAR) RPAC Participation
16 Council and its board of directors; and

17 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus is an active volunteer in his
18 community and has served in volunteer and leadership roles
19 with the Home Builders Association of Greater Peoria, the
20 Downtown Development Corporation of Peoria, the OSF St.
21 Francis Medical Center Foundation, and the Children's Hospital
22 of Illinois Community Advisory Board and as an active
23 volunteer for St. Vincent de Paul Parish; and

1 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus is a past commissioner for the City
2 of Peoria Planning & Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of
3 Appeals; and

4 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus holds numerous professional
5 certifications, including AHWD (At Home with Diversity), C2EX
6 (Realtors Commitment to Excellence), EPro (National
7 Association of Realtors program to help master advanced
8 digital marketing techniques), GRI (Graduate Realtor
9 Institute), and SRS (Seller Representative Specialist); and

10 WHEREAS, Jeff Kolbus is respected by policy makers on both
11 sides of the political aisle for his candid assessments of the
12 industry, honest feedback, and forthright forecasting;
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate Jeff Kolbus on being elected the 2025
17 president-elect of the Illinois Realtors Association; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Jeff Kolbus as a symbol of our respect and esteem.