



HR0909

LRB104 21893 MST 37773 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Elizabeth "Beth" Ryan on
4 the occasion of her retirement as the director of the
5 Johnsburg Public Library; and

6 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan has dedicated her career to the service
7 of her community through the power of literacy and
8 information, having first entered the profession as a second
9 career at the Woodstock Public Library in 2003; and

10 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan's commitment to excellence led her to
11 earn a master's degree in library and information science from
12 the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2010, specializing as a
13 reference librarian to better serve and engage with her
14 patrons; and

15 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan has served with distinction as the
16 director of the Johnsburg Public Library since 2017, where her
17 wit, kindness, and genuine spirit have touched countless
18 lives; and

19 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan, throughout her tenure, has been known
20 for her hands-on approach, whether she was working the desk,
21 assisting with programs, or engaging in community outreach;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan's leadership extended beyond her local
3 library to the state level, where she served on the PrairieCat
4 Administrative Council as a public library representative and
5 treasurer through 2026, contributing to what she considers the
6 best consortium in the State of Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan's diagnosis of ALS earlier this year
8 did nothing to change her unwavering positive attitude and
9 trademark sense of humor, and she has remained a source of
10 profound inspiration to her colleagues and community; and

11 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan's lifelong passion for reading, which
12 includes the works of Dr. Seuss and Judy Blume, her particular
13 fondness for the writings of Stephen King, and her favorite
14 books, The Stand by Stephen King, The Book Thief by Markus
15 Zusak, The Help by Kathryn Stockett, and Helter Skelter by
16 Vincent Bugliosi and Curt Gentry, has helped define her
17 character and her career; and

18 WHEREAS, Beth Ryan remains the heart of her family in her
19 retirement, supported by her husband, Bill, and their
20 children, Kelly and Nicki; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we congratulate Elizabeth "Beth" Ryan on her retirement as
3 director of the Johnsbury Public Library, thank her for her
4 years of dedicated service to the people of Illinois, and wish
5 her continued peace and happiness; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Beth Ryan as a symbol of our respect and esteem.